

# THE

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**A**N AGGREGATE MEETING of the Friends of Parliamentary and Financial Reform in the Tower Hamlets will be held at SION CHAPEL, Whitechapel-road, on **MONDAY EVENING, January 28th.** The chair will be taken at Seven o'clock precisely.

Sir **JOSHUA WALMSLEY, M.P.,** President of the Association, will attend and address the meeting.

**GEORGE THOMPSON, Esq., M.P.,** will also be present, and take a review of the proceedings during the last session of Parliament.

Reserved Seats for Ladies.

AT the usual MONTHLY MEETING of the BOARD, held at the CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARY, November 13, 1849, the Rev. Dr. HARRIS in the Chair, the subject of the Hon. Stuart Wortley's intended motion for the repeal of the act prohibiting the marriage of a widower with his deceased wife's sister was considered, and the following resolutions were passed unanimously:—

"That this Board would hereby express its conviction of the impolicy, inefficacy, and moral mischief of the act commonly known by the title of 'Lord Lyndhurst's Act,' in so far as it relates especially to the prohibition of the marriage of a widower with his deceased wife's sister or niece."

"That this Board will be ready, at the proper time, to use any influence it may command for the repeal of that law (or so much of it as refers to the prohibition in question), in connexion with any general movement that may be adopted."

ROBERT ASHTON, Secretary.

**THE TWELFTH ELECTION** of this Charity was held on Monday, January 21st, at the London Tavern. In the absence of Lord Dudley Coutts Stuart, M.P., the chair was taken by

At the close of the poll, the following fifteen children were declared duly elected :—

1. Revett, Emma P. ..	4,018	9. Gardner, William...	2,260
2. Ellis, Thomas ..	3,938	10. Kneale, Frances E. .	2,238
3. Herbert, Francis G. .	3,889	11. Making, John ..	2,212
4. Tessier, Emma ..	3,609	12. Herbert, Henry ..	2,090
5. Davis, Charles A. .	2,398	13. Roff, George ..	2,027
6. Tranter, Catherine..	2,381	14. Self, Eliza ..	1,994
7. Williams, Charles B.	2,311	15. Herbert, Louisa ..	1,863
8. Gill, William ..	2,281		

The next Election will take place on the third Monday in June, 1880.  
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— *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 1997

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"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. X.—NEW SERIES, No. 219.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1850.

[PRICE 6d.]

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## ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

### WASHING THE BLACKAMOR.

THERE is always a degree of interest raised in our minds by the sight of a man courageously wrestling with an impossibility. Some folks are disposed to laugh at it—some, to moralize on the waste of energy which it exhibits—many denounce the attempt in harsh or contemptuous terms—and most congratulate themselves on having been endowed with wisdom enough to keep them clear of any such mistake. And yet, perhaps, incidentally, the world has reaped more advantage from the efforts of individual zeal to conquer an impracticability, or to realize an unrealizable fancy, than from many of the soberer exploits of a less enterprising genius. What do we not owe to the keen search of mediæval alchemists after "the philosopher's stone?" How much are we indebted to our modern conceptions of liberty of conscience to those who passionately aimed, by means both foul and fair, to bring about uniformity of religious belief! Many problems have been settled, and much knowledge has been gained, by the fruitless and expensive expeditions for the discovery of a north-west passage. Men of great aims may fail, and, in some cases, must—but oftentimes their failure is more instructive than their success would have been beneficial.

Mr. Horsman, the honourable member for Cockermouth, has chivalrously devoted his powers and zeal—neither of them of the common order—to the reform of ecclesiastical abuses. We have watched his course with interest, because, although we regard him as having undertaken a task as hopeless as the transmutation of the baser metals into gold, we cannot but anticipate from his ability, his sincerity, and his indomitable perseverance, valuable assistance towards effecting a change which is not in the nature of things impossible, but which he, probably, would deprecate at present as a serious evil. In a letter to his constituents, published in the last number of the *Carlisle Journal*, he reports progress; and, certainly, his rapid summary of past proceedings furnishes the advocates of a separation of the Church from the State with unanswerable arguments.

His description of the kind of success which has attended his efforts is amazingly rich and suggestive. As we have given his letter entire in another column, we will not quote it. The pith of it amounts to this,—the member for Cockermouth has succeeded in exposing what nobody can deny, nobody defend; but, also, what nothing has been able to remove or reform. Misappropriation of funds—episcopal selfishness—carelessness to the Church's wants—injury to religion—waste and alienation of means—and bishops' returns worthless, because untrue, and yet, untrue as they are, exhibiting incomes so excessive as to be disgraceful—all this has been proved. But that is all. In 1848, Mr. Horsman sought to remedy these evils—received a promise of effectual aid from Government, courteously accepted that promise, and was—betrayed. In 1849, he again essayed his strength

—compelled Lord John Russell to confess, extorted from him another promise, and gained—delay. Importunity brought up at last a show of legislation, but it had a look in the wrong direction—the bill was altered according to desire—delayed again—then surreptitiously changed in its leading provisions—then, of course, opposed by the Church reformers—and equally, of course, dropped by the Government at last. Every abuse remains as it was—undefended, unextenuated, unremoved. Some "mysterious and mischievous power" is always stepping in to disappoint and defeat the honourable member for Cockermouth. He still hopes to baffle it. He regards himself as on the very verge of success—and he will be again and again tantalized with fair professions, and cheated of all his expectations. We must remind him, in the words of a somewhat vulgar proverb, that it will take a more determined, as well as a wiser, man than he, to "make a silk purse out of a sow's ear."

We are far enough from wishing to discourage Mr. Horsman in his heroic enterprise. Indeed, the object of our own pursuit gains too much every way from his labours, to permit of our regarding them otherwise than with satisfaction. Believing, moreover, that he is thoroughly in earnest, we venture a shrewd guess that stress of opposition will sooner or later put him on the same track with ourselves. His desire is to make the Church of England in fact what it is in profession—an efficient religious instrumentality for the instruction and evangelization of the people. Has it never occurred to him, in the course of his efforts, that a Church which wants perpetual watching from without to keep it from corruption, must be devoid of the first element of success—namely, an interest in her own work? He appears to imagine that an equitable distribution of its income will restore vitality to it. Why should he? The excessive income of the bishops and dignitaries is not more productive of sloth and carelessness in them, than a moderate endowment would be to the majority of the clergy. It is not so much the amount of income, as the tenure on which it is held, that engenders apathy, and encourages self-seeking. Give men a life-interest in certain property, and annex to it, as the condition of its usufruct, the discharge of certain duties, and you may expect it to hold good as a general law, that as little duty will be given in return for the emolument enjoyed, as law will put up with. The true spirit of evangelical enterprise must pervade a church (whatever be the perfection of her machinery) before great results can be reasonably anticipated—and a legal provision for the clergy, whether moderate or excessive, whether equally or unequally distributed, is sure to attract to office men whose object is, not the work to be performed, but the pay to be received. Exceptions of course there are, and will be—but the general effect of making religious teachers the paid functionaries of the State, practically independent of, and not responsible to, their respective flocks, will be, whilst human nature remains what it is, a premium upon idleness, inefficiency, and stagnation. As is the master, so will be the man—a careless, worldly, political State, will always have a careless, worldly, political clergy.

Such being our settled conviction—a conviction, we think, borne out by uniform experience—Mr. Horsman's efforts strike us as very analogous to the advice given by Captain Cuttle to Walter Gay, when the worthy seaman gave the lad his watch. If it was only put on a half an hour night and morning it would keep time excellently. But of what use is a time-piece which requires daily setting? A horse may be described as a most serviceable horse, if you can spare three or four men to prevent it from playing pranks—but it is questionable whether one is not better without an animal which requires so much management before it will do its work. Some people say that Mr. Mechi's model farm is wonderfully productive—but it is whispered that he spends upon it much more in value than it returns him. Of what use is a church which no amount of exposure or of

coaxing can prevail upon to go right? Why, from the Reformation downwards, the Establishment was never more spiritually efficient than it is now—and yet, at this moment, it is tottering under the weight of its own abuses. Does Mr. Horsman really hope that cathedral reform will essentially change its character? If so, he will soon be undeceived. No vigilance can galvanize an essentially political institution into a thing of spiritual life and power. Its character will always correspond with its predominant motive. As a creature of the State, it will reflect the image of the State.

Nevertheless, the public at large, and we in particular, are deeply indebted to Mr. Horsman for his courageous and persevering efforts. He is proving one point to the satisfaction of everybody—that an Established Church will always be as efficient as the State has power to make it—and not a whit more so. Its virtues are forced upon it—its vices are inherent in its constitution. It is hard to push it right—it is impossible to make it go right. It is mechanism, not life. Its concern is pay, not duty. In a word, it is for itself, not the people. The Blackamoor cannot be washed white—an Established Church cannot be effectually reformed.

### THE NEW COLLEGE.

WE noticed, some months ago, a letter by Dr. William Smith, proposing to unite the various Dissenting Colleges, and out of their funds and possessions to constitute one new instructional institution. Coming from a gentleman who held an appointment in two of the London Colleges, and whose private interest was directly opposed to the union, it was well calculated to produce a salutary impression in the right quarter.

We gave the proposal, at the time when it was made, our unqualified approbation, as being a step in the proper direction. Since then, active means have been employed to realize Dr. Smith's plan. The colleges at Highbury and Homerton are sold, and Coward College, now connected with University College, is to be given up. A piece of ground has been purchased at St. John's Wood, and, in the course of the ensuing summer, a building for the proposed institution will be erected. A committee has been formed out of the Managers of the old bodies, who have carried out the plan thus far.

Although the committee have not yet completed their arrangements, enough has transpired to enable us to form an estimate of the position the new College is likely to take amongst our educational establishments. One of the first and most important features, is the abolition of the system of residence within its walls. This system, well enough, perhaps, for lads in a school, has long been objectionable to those who have had the greatest opportunities of knowing its working, its effects, and its evils. We rejoice in a change, which, we feel convinced, will tend much to improve the position and elevate the character of our theological students. In the next place, it is proposed that the course of education be divided into two faculties—one of theology, and the other of arts. By this arrangement, the committee will open the doors of their College, to what are usually called lay students. The funds of the old institutions provide for the gratuitous education of a certain number of young men who are intended for the Christian ministry, and they will necessarily attend the various classes in the faculty of arts; but as these consist of subjects which constitute the basis of a liberal education, the committee have thought the opportunity too favourable to be overlooked of establishing for the Dissenting community an institution in which their sons, whether studying for the ministry or not, might receive a sound and complete education, based on Christian principles. It is to this part of the scheme of the committee, that many will attach most importance. To say nothing of the advantage to be derived by the theological students, from mixing with others besides those who are entering the same profession with them—



selves, we think this feature in the new College presents us with an educational institution on a sound basis.

It is said, indeed, that religion has nothing to do with science; but with all deference to the high authority from which the axiom proceeds we beg to differ. Religion is so intimately blended with science that it is received or rejected upon the acknowledgment of scientific principles. History, mathematics, and metaphysics, have all been employed in times past by their most distinguished cultivators to undermine religion; and have we not recently seen the sciences of geology, chemistry, botany, and anatomy, pressed into the service of a theory which denied the responsibility of man and the presence of a God?

It is, then, from this point of view that we regard the new College with satisfaction. Whilst it will be one in which the Congregational Dissenters of Great Britain may with confidence send their sons to receive a classical and scientific education, it will be open to all, without let or hindrance, who wish to participate in the instruction afforded within its walls.

We also notice another point in the arrangements of the College with much pleasure. It is the institution of a chair of natural history. If there be one department of human inquiry exercising more influence than another on the thought of the masses, it is natural science. It is from the armoury of natural sciences that the sceptic now obtains weapons to assail the truths of revelation. It is in the principles of the natural sciences that the working man finds a knowledge of the materials and tools with which he works; and it is from this source that he draws much of the matter of the thought that directs him in his daily life. These sciences afford, in their facts, a never-failing source of illustration and of argument; and, in popular oratory, those who are best acquainted with them are, *ceteris paribus*, most likely to interest those whom they address. In addition to this, the facts of natural science constitute a department of knowledge which gives the mind a special training; and no course of education, although embracing languages and mathematics, can be said to be perfect, in the present day, without them.

## THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH MOVEMENT.

**THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.**—The committee of this society are, we understand, preparing for a vigorous agitation during the sitting of Parliament. Last night, the Rev. William Brook and the Secretary were to attend a public meeting at Chatham; next Tuesday, Mr. G. Thompson, M.P., and the Rev. D. Katterns, are expected to address a meeting at Brighton; and on the 29th, and following days, Mr. Burnet and Mr. Kingsley are announced to be at Bristol, Worcester, and Cheltenham. Mr. Kingsley is afterwards to visit Leominster, Kington, Ludlow, and Roehdale; and then proceeds on a tour through Staffordshire with the Rev. Joseph Fletcher, of Christchurch. The anticipated motion of Mr. Roebuck on the subject of the Irish Church, is, we believe, engaging the attention of the committee, who can scarcely fail to adopt measures for eliciting a strong expression of public feeling in support of Mr. Roebuck's object. Another important item in the committee's programme of operations is the second Triennial Conference, to be held this year, and for which preparations have already been commenced. The members of the Council of the Association have been summoned to meet at Radley's Hotel, on the 6th of Feb., for the purpose of determining the time and place for holding, and the constitution of, the Conference.

**HALIFAX.**—A lecture was delivered by the Rev. John Stock, of Salendine Nook, near Huddersfield, in the Temperance Hall of this town, on Wednesday evening, the 16th inst. The subject was:—"The compulsory maintenance of religion anti-scriptural, injurious, and unjust." The audience was not so numerous as usual, owing to the inclemency of the night; but the lecture was received with deep attention and earnestness, and elicited frequent bursts of applause. The committee are endeavouring to make arrangements for other lectures.

**HULL.**—The first lecture of the winter series at Hull was delivered in the long room of the Mechanics' Institute, by the Rev. John George, Independent minister, Market Weighton. The Revs. Newman Hall, B.A., W. J. Stuart, W. Jackson, A. Renton, and D. M.N. Thompson, were amongst the ministers present.

**THE GORHAM CASE.**—We hear, from good authority, that the judgment of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, in the great Gorham case, will be delivered in the second week of February; and it is confidently believed that the decision will be in favour of Mr. Gorham.—*Patriot*.

**A PERVERT CONVERTED.**—The Rev. Mr. Jephson, late curate to Dr. Hook, at Leeds, who seceded to the Romish communion a few years ago, has, we are assured on good authority, returned to the bosom of the Church of England.—*Ibid.*

## MR. HORSMAN ON CHURCH REFORM.

(From the *Carlisle Journal*, Jan. 18.)

"TO THE ELECTORS OF COCKERMOUTH."

"Gentlemen,—As a severe accident, from which I am not yet quite recovered, prevents my paying you the visit which was arranged for this week, I am obliged to resort to this more formal mode of acknowledging the vote of thanks upon my public conduct, which you forwarded to me at the close of last session. It is gratifying to me to think that, during the fourteen years in which I have acted as your representative, not one cause of difference has existed between us for a moment, and that on this, as on other occasions, instead of my having to appear before you to offer an apology or explanation of any portion of my conduct, you have generously anticipated that necessity by an expression of your own opinion.

"I need not assure you that at the close of a very arduous and responsible session such marks of sympathy and approval are especially grateful to a representative, and bind him to the service of his constituents more closely than ever.

"But there is one subject of peculiar interest and importance in my eyes to which you especially referred in the resolution you sent me, and I cannot permit myself to pass it by without some further explanation than you have yet received. You alluded to my exertions for Ecclesiastical Reform, and the success that had attended them. That success, I am sorry to say, has, as yet, been of a very imperfect character. Success, indeed, we have had, so far as that we have succeeded in eliciting from all parties, in Parliament and out of it, one general acknowledgment and condemnation of the abuses of our ecclesiastical system. Exposures have been made which, in these days, and touching the character of any other body of men, must have led to an immediate remedy. The shameful misappropriation of our Church funds—the unfavourable light in which our episcopal rulers have placed themselves before the public, by their proceedings at the Board of the Ecclesiastical Commission—the postponement, in so many cases, of the Church's wants to those of her dignitaries and rulers—their apparent indifference to the spiritual condition of the poor when it was only to be improved by the removal of some profitable abuse—the injury done to religion by the character and example of our caputular bodies—the waste and alienation of Church estates perpetually going on—the excessive incomes of our bishops and dignitaries, even under their own returns—and the utter worthlessness of those returns as a fair estimate of the receipts of those who make them—all these have been proved in a manner admitting of no dispute; and not a voice has been raised to extenuate what no one has had the courage to deny.

"So far, I repeat, we have succeeded. But as for any legislative remedy for these proved abuses, we stand precisely where we were before the question was ever stirred. Motions have been made, discussed, and supported on all sides, with an earnestness and unanimity which did great credit to the Christian feeling of the House. The Minister commencing by opposing, ended by acquiescing in our proposals, and, compelled to bow before the opinion of the House, and to save himself from defeat, he promised everything and has done nothing. You are aware that the forms and usages of Parliament offer almost endless opportunities of delay to a government disposed to use them. But, notwithstanding all this, I think the House of Commons would have compelled the Ministers last session to have carried out some of their pledges, had they not baffled it by a recourse to weapons such as, in my experience at least, were never used before.

"In the session of 1848, I brought forward a series of motions—on the mode of paying bishops—on the union of the Episcopal and Common Funds—on the state of the cathedrals, and on the system of fines and leases of Church property. The maladministration of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners was also a prominent subject of complaint. On every one of these questions the Minister succumbed to the declared opinions of the House—he admitted all that we had contended for, and pledged himself, on behalf of the Government, to undertake the desired reform. On these solemn and reiterated pledges, the motions were withdrawn; but on the last occasion, which was at the close of the session, in once more reluctantly withdrawing, I expressly stated that I did so on that occasion, as I had done on previous ones, in reliance on the Prime Minister's pledge that he himself would undertake the subject; and I warned him that, on the first night of the ensuing session, I should call on him to redeem his pledges, and produce the measures which might have been prepared during the recess.

"Well, gentlemen, the vacation came and passed away, without the smallest symptom of a move in the ecclesiastical camp! and I was pretty accurately informed that the new session was approaching without one single step having been taken, or one thought bestowed by the Minister to the subjects on which he had given such pledges to the House. But, late in the recess, there was issued a commission to inquire into the question of Church Leases, and this, I was privately informed, was the probable history of that commission—that, as Parliament was approaching, and Government had no measure on ecclesiastical affairs prepared, nor the smallest intention of legislating on the subject, it was necessary they should provide themselves with some further

excuse for delay; and that, when I rose to put my intended question in the House, I should be answered that Ministers had had the matter under consideration, and had issued a commission of inquiry, and until that commission had reported, they could do nothing further on the subject. Matters turned out as had been anticipated. I had communicated my misgivings to various friends, who watched for the result with no small curiosity. It was soon gratified. Lord John Russell's reply I have already given you—it was uttered with a gravity suited to the occasion, and a happy unconsciousness of the transparency of the device, and the precision with which his language had been foretold.

"But the Minister had not gained his object. He had forgotten that that commission, comprehensive as it was intended to be, did not cover all the subjects on which he was pledged to legislate. He was reminded that the subject of the cathedrals, of the episcopal and common funds, and the composition of the Ecclesiastical Commission, were not touched by his new inquiry; and on my repeating the question as to those subjects next day, he acknowledged that he had overlooked them, and on two of them renewed his pledge of immediate legislation.

"Delay succeeded. Scarcely a week passed without our pressing the Government, and at length the Ecclesiastical Commission Bill was reluctantly brought in.

"The history of that bill is curious. The composition of the Ecclesiastical Commission had been condemned by Lord John Russell and Sir George Grey before they were called to office. When they came into office, instead of improving its composition, they appointed a Commission of Inquiry upon it. No one could discover what there was to inquire about; but the inquiry was made to last through two sessions. No less than five Ecclesiastical Commissioners were members of the committee—two of them were also Cabinet Ministers—and, this protracted inquiry at last closed, the committee adopted an unanimous resolution, condemning the management of the Episcopal Board, and recommending the addition of three responsible and paid commissioners for the administration of its temporal affairs.

"Sir George Grey, as Secretary of State for the Home Department, took a leading part in the discussion of that report—he gave strength to its unanimity; and yet he himself, in the subsequent session, introduced the Government measure, utterly at variance with the committee's report and his own recommendation, and giving to the bishops on the commission more power than before.

"But the subsequent proceedings were still more strange.

"Interviews were sought with the Prime Minister, and a representation made to him of the unlooked for character of the bill—and its objectionable clauses having been pointed out, it was urged that it could not give satisfaction, or be accepted as a settlement of the question, unless framed more in accordance with the recommendation of the committee.

"Lord John Russell took time to see the Archbishop of Canterbury, and replied to me by arrangement on the following Tuesday, in the House. His words were to this effect—that having conferred with the Archbishop, he was now ready to adopt the alterations which had been suggested to him, and, having done so, he expected the bill to pass without further opposition.

"Nothing could be a more satisfactory declaration to us that our suggestions had been adopted, and that the recommendations of the committee would now be carried out in the bill. And when the noble lord proceeded to say that he should invite the House to go into committee on the bill *pro forma*, in order to introduce those amendments, and asked for a few days' delay, we readily assented. It was true, the delay was very dangerous—it was late in the session; every day was now precious; and during, not that session only, but the three antecedent ones, it had been a constant battle for delay on the part of the Government. Nevertheless, we had now the Minister's word—his assurance that the bill would be put into such a shape as to secure its passing without difficulty, completely satisfied us—and we thus allowed ten more days to be lost.

"The House then went into committee *pro forma* on the bill—it was late at night, and the House impatient. The Attorney-General was moved into the chair. The Home Secretary handed in his amendments; they were put, one after another, from the chair; no one heard a word, and no one tried to hear. It was a matter of course that they were the amendments which the Prime Minister had promised should be introduced in that committee. I should as soon have dreamt of keeping my eye on a Cabinet Minister, lest he should steal my hat, as of suspecting him of substituting one set of amendments for another which had been promised. So the business was galloped through, as formal business usually is, at half an hour past midnight. The amendments were reported to the Speaker, and the bill ordered to be reprinted; and though some days more must be lost in the reprinting, we left the House with the conviction that at last one step had been achieved in the great and important work of Church Reform—and that the days of the Ecclesiastical Commission, in its then mischievous and irresponsible shape, were numbered.

"You may therefore imagine, but I cannot describe to you, my surprise when the reprinted bill came out. I could hardly believe my eyes. Not a single one of the promised amendments had been introduced; nay, it was impossible to discover, from the beginning of the bill to the end, that one single line or one single syllable had been altered so as to bring it more into conformity with the recommendations of that committee on whose report it was professedly founded. What, then, were the alibi of



paper which I saw the Home Secretary hand in, as the promised amendments, to his colleague in the chair? I leave you to judge. On the character of that proceeding I will not permit myself to make a single comment. But its result was, that the Government had succeeded in gaining a whole month at the close of the session; and the raising a remonstrance or reviving a discussion at that late period, with the view of getting a good bill passed, was entirely hopeless.

"The Government had accomplished its purpose of postponing an improvement of the Ecclesiastical Commission now for the fourth year.

"I have often been asked why, after such very decided pledges as we had received from the first Minister of the Crown, we did not achieve more last session? You have now the answer.

"I make these statements advisedly, and not behind any man's back. Immediately after the occurrence of these facts, I embodied them in a letter of remonstrance to Lord J. Russell, dwelling especially on what had taken place on the committal of the bill, and apprising him of my intention to make it public. Had there been on his part the faintest indication of a denial, I should have hesitated before I committed myself publicly to statements which might well excite incredulity.

"But, gentlemen, one reflection arises immediately out of all this. What is that unseen and mysterious influence which imposes so much that must be painful on the Minister? It is not his interest to postpone ecclesiastical reform, and it cannot be his wish. With him the path of duty is also the path of popularity and power. Nor have our episcopal rulers, outwardly, at least, the means of so coercing him to the public injury and his own embarrassment. In their obstructive policy they have met with no Parliamentary encouragement; they have long ceased to command popular sympathy; they are unaided by the clergy, and unknown to their flocks; and yet, without any of these outward or visible signs of influence, they do contrive, by the exercise of some means, as mysterious as irresistible, to divert a Minister from the wisest courses—compelling him to depart from his pledges to Parliament—to mock its forms, and trifle with its expectations—nay, to become the slave of the hierarchy in the perpetration of abuses which his judgment has long since condemned—and in withholding from the poor of his country those religious blessings which, as a statesman, or as a Christian, it must be his first wish they should receive.

"Whence, I ask again, this mysterious and mischievous power? Will it bear investigation? Can it much longer endure?

"But though we have not had complete success, we have, as yet, met with no discouragement but delay—and delay, in such a cause, is, happily, not defeat. We may be baffled for the moment—but the question of ecclesiastical reform will lose nothing ultimately by that. The longer postponed, the more severe the operation; and I, for one, will not now be satisfied with what I contended for three years ago.

"Many of our friends, who knew nothing of Parliamentary proceedings but what appears in the reports, have thought that the question of ecclesiastical reform was lost sight of last session. I have, therefore, thought it right to give this explanation.

"You will perceive that I allow no weight whatever to the apology, now habitually put forward by the Ministry for the evasion of their duty, that they have 'difficulties to deal with.' This plea of difficulties I have found so little to justify in the case of ecclesiastical reform, that I have been tempted to inquire whether it is not put forth on equally slight grounds in other cases; and the conviction that it is so, has led me to deal with other measures of the Government in a freer and less indulgent spirit than might seem quite agreeable to their notions of party obligations and requirements. But party with me has no meaning and no value, except as symbolical of principle; and I own no allegiance to leaders, except as the faithful types and exponents of the principles of the party that placed them in power.

"Between the majority of the party with which I have ever acted and our present Ministers it is unhappily too apparent that a great want of sympathy has been created by the reluctance of the latter to deal with those abuses against which they were so virtuously indignant in opposition.

"If I had succeeded in my intention of visiting you, I should have gone further into these questions, and contrasted the difficulties with which Lord J. Russell's government has had to contend with those of preceding Ministers; but I do not wish to make them the subject of a written address. It is obvious, however, that, as regards ecclesiastical reform, with so many motives to promote it, and so many aids—in public approval—Parliamentary support—and the most laudable of all ambitions in a Minister—the desire to elevate the moral and religious character of a people—the real difficulty consists, not in granting the reform, but in withholding it.

"I have the honour to be, gentlemen,

"Your very obliged and faithful servant,

"E. HORSBMAN."

**MORE PERVERTS.**—Since we recorded the secession of Mr. Dayman, we have heard of other perverts who have passed through Tractarianism to Rome. Thus the Rev. W. Hammer, who formerly held the curacy of Tidecombe Portion, Tiverton, Devon, under the Rev. W. Rayer, has gone over to the Church of Rome. The Rev. Ambrose Steward, formerly of St. John's College, Cambridge, has also seceded, and, with his wife, was recently received into the Romish Church by the priest of Stoke Chapel, near Ipswich. The last-named rev. gentleman held no Church pre-

ferment. What Father Newman, or any other active emissary who passed from the Tractarian ranks to Popery, may have had to do with these perversions, we are not enabled to say.—*Church and State Gazette.*

**THE REV. DR. HOOK.**—It is currently reported that this divine has seceded from the Tractarian and High Church parties, with whose proceedings he has for some time past expressed great dissatisfaction, and to have professed himself a convert to the doctrine of "justification by faith only," in opposition to the Tractarian and Romanistic view of "justification by inherent righteousness," as set forth in the works of the writers of the Oxford School.—*Church Paper.*

**A FAREWELL.**—Friday being the day to which the convocation of the clergy stood prorogued, the Jerusalem Chamber, Westminster, was opened for the purpose of further proroguing the convocation, in conformity with her Majesty's commission. His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury arrived at the Jerusalem Chamber at twelve o'clock. His Grace was accompanied by his chaplain and secretary, Mr. Francis Hart Dyke, her Majesty's Proctor and Chief Registrar of the province of Canterbury, was also present, and by his Grace's desire read her Majesty's warrant for the further prorogation of the synod. The Archbishop said, in virtue of the warrant just read, and in obedience to her Majesty's commands, the convocation stood adjourned till Friday, the 1st of February next.

**THE FEMALE EMIGRATION MOVEMENT.**—The report of a sub-committee has been presented to the committee of the Female Emigration Fund, on the best mode of conducting the emigration. The following points appear to be settled:—The candidates must not exceed thirty-five years of age; they must be free from any bodily or mental defect likely to impair their usefulness as settlers; they should have had the small-pox, or have been vaccinated; their characters for industry and morality should be satisfactory, and it is desirable that they should read and write; they should have been accustomed to washing and cooking, or have had some experience in domestic service as housemaids or nurses. The candidates will at first be received in a probationary house, in this country, superintended by a sub-committee, with a matron accustomed to colonial life, and a surgeon; there they will acquire some training, and will prepare their outfit, which must be provided at their own expense. The machinery of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commission will probably be placed at the service of the enterprise, both for the passage and the reception of the emigrants in the colonies: each emigrant will receive 10s. on landing. The report suggests that persons having relations in the colonies might be invited to apply for assisted passages, one-half of the cost to be defrayed by their friends or the parish. This report was adopted by the general committee, and a committee of selection was appointed to prepare a list of fifty candidates.

**AN IMPERIAL PETITION FOR THE ABOLITION OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENTS.**—We are glad that we are enabled to announce publicly the plan which is about to be carried out, with the view of presenting to the House of Commons, within the present session, a petition that shall fairly express the state of public opinion amongst the educated classes on the subject of Capital Punishments. It is proposed to deliver a lecture, which will be an historical view of the question, at all the important towns of the three kingdoms, and to place the Imperial Petition in the lecture-room for signature; so that only those who have heard the question fairly exposed will attach their names. By adopting this course, Mr. Blanchard Jerrold, the originator of this petition, believes that the question will command the attention of the House of Commons, and will lead legislators to give the question immediate reconsideration. Mr. Blanchard Jerrold has undertaken the duties of lecturer, and will be responsible for the petition, until it is put into the hands of William Ewart, Esq., M.P., who has willingly consented to lay it on the table of the House before the recess. The lecture will be delivered in twelve different localities in and about London; the first in the course of next week.—*Weekly News.*

**THE WEATHER AND THE PARKS.**—A thaw set in on Wednesday last, which continued through the three following days. The principal thoroughfares, which for two or three days have been in a very satisfactory condition for travelling, became almost impassable from an accumulation of mud and melted snow. On Saturday night the frost set in with an intensity equal to the early part of the week. On Sunday morning at an early hour the thermometer at the receiving-house of the Royal Humane Society in Hyde Park, which had previously stood above freezing point, fell to 29 Fahrenheit, 3 degrees below that point, and stood steadily during the whole of the day at 30, with a sharp piercing wind from the N.E., the barometer being steady at 29.83, with every indication of a continuance of fair and frosty weather. The ice on the Serpentine, Kensington-gardens, and St. James's Park, which had partially melted, had, during the day, regained its former solidity, and the number of skaters and visitors to the parks, although far short of the enormous crowds that visited the parks on the previous Sunday, was very great, and at various periods of the day it was computed that nearly 100,000 persons were present. The river Thames is, however, entirely free from ice, and several of the steamers have resumed their stations. The thaw has again set in.

## RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

**DARTFORD, KENT.**—On Tuesday week a social tea-meeting was held of the newly-gathered church and congregation worshipping in the Independent chapel, Lowfield-street. The object of this meeting was to celebrate the termination of the connexion between this place, as a station, with the Home Missionary Society, under whose auspices it has been for the last three years; during which time the church has gathered some 50 members, rallied its position, discharged the debt due by mortgage of £200, and gathered a congregation of sufficient strength and numbers to justify the release from the society, and their undertaking the principal part of the support of the Rev. W. Smith, who, from having laboured with success as a missionary, is now become the pastor, at the unanimous request of the church and people. The occasion referred to was a most cheering one. Near 200 sat down to tea at six o'clock, which was given by the ladies of the congregation. At seven o'clock the chair was occupied by the pastor, and the meeting, which was large, was addressed by the Rev. H. Jenkins, minister of Zion Chapel, and by Mr. Reader, the secretary of the Sunday-school, and Mr. Phillips, one of the deacons.

**AN ACTIVE CHURCH.**—The congregation assembling in Albion-street Chapel had their soiree on the evening of New-Year's-day; Mr. J. H. Wilson in the chair. The chapel was quite full, and the conduct and appearance of the people were such as bespoke both their moral and physical improvement. After partaking of an excellent tea, the chairman said they had got a new and commodious chapel since last year, and had increased from 150 to 300 in number. The Temperance Society now contained above 200 staunch members, and they had instituted, in connexion with that department, a Benefit Society and a Penny Bank. The object of the Penny Bank was to encourage habits of saving small sums, and it was satisfactory to find that, although it had been only ten weeks in existence, the deposits, which were lodged in the National Savings Bank, in the names of Sheriff Watson and Mr. Macallan, amounted (from 90 members) to between £10 and £11. They had also a select library in connexion with the chapel, twenty-one volumes of which were taken out on the first evening that it had been opened. The Bible and Tract Societies had prospered—the total number of Bibles and New Testaments purchased since the commencement, two years ago, being 280, and of tracts and magazines, 10,000. All these had been paid for by weekly subscriptions of a halfpenny in the one society and a penny in the other—the Bibles costing from 1s. to 1s. 3d. each, bound in gilt and clasped. The class for sacred music had been well attended; also, a class for the instruction of adults. The chapel had been full every Sunday night, and the prayer-meeting on Monday had an average attendance of from fifty to sixty people. They had also concluded the first half of a series of public lectures for the instruction of the congregation. The chapel, at every lecture, was crowded. The meeting was then addressed by the Rev. Mr. Wallace, Professor Martin, Sheriff Watson, Mr. Maitland, Mr. Macallan, and others. Mr. Cruickshank delighted the meeting by playing some beautiful sacred music, and the choir of the chapel sang a variety of temperance and other hymns. The meeting separated at about half-past ten o'clock, evidently delighted with the proceedings of the evening.—*Aberdeen Herald.*

**SOIREE IN HONOUR OF DR. WARDLAW AT GLASGOW.**—On Wednesday evening, the 18th inst., perhaps the largest tea-party ever witnessed in Glasgow, numbering 3,000 persons, and upwards, of both sexes, assembled in the City-hall to do honour to the venerable Dr. Wardlaw. Long before the hour at which the proceedings commenced (six o'clock), the large building was crowded. William Milroy, Esq., senior deacon of West George-street Congregational church, presided as chairman; around whom, on the platform, was congregated a brilliant array of the learning, talent, and piety, of the city—and not of it only, but also of divers towns and cities two or three score of miles distant. Nearly all denominations of professing Christians were represented on it, as well as in the body of the hall—Establishment, Free Church, United Presbyterian, Independent, Baptist, &c. The speakers, in their order, were Dr. Kidston, the Chairman, Dr. King, Professor Alexander Thomson, Rev. J. R. Campbell (Edinburgh), W. P. Paton, Esq., Dr. Wardlaw, — Fullarton, Esq., Rev. G. D. Cullen (Leith), Rev. Robert Lang (Dundee), Dr. John Macfarlane, Dr. W. L. Alexander (Edinburgh), Dr. Robson, Professor Eadie, and Dr. Miller. In the course of the evening, a splendid testimonial, in the shape of a silver tea-service, bearing a suitable inscription, was presented by W. P. Paton, Esq., to the distinguished guest, being the gift of a few members of the church and congregation under his pastoral care. Dr. W.'s reply was chaste, pathetic, and elegant—that part of it, particularly, which referred to the aspersions made recently on his character, was deeply affecting, and, we could see, drew tears from many eyes. On resuming his seat, Mr. Fullarton, publisher, Edinburgh, intimated, on behalf of numerous friends, there was an intention of presenting the doctor with a full length portrait of himself with the view of adorning the Theological Academy-room, where he has so long and so ably taught the rising ministry. The addresses were interspersed with hymns, the singing of which was greatly aided by a euphonicon and vocal band, under the skillful leadership of Mr. Samuel Barr. The company dispersed about eleven o'clock, their countenances



revealing intensest inward satisfaction the while. Altogether, it was one of the most, if not itself the most, enthusiastic and triumphant demonstrations of the kind we were ever privileged to attend. How gratifying to the good old man, ere quitting his earthly tabernacle, thus to listen to the utterances of unabated confidence and love from the lips of the excellent of the earth, and to see in the smiling human thousands, no less than in the costly offering before him, the tangible memorials of both! The venerable doctor is now verging on the seventieth year of his age, and has ministered for nearly forty-seven of these to the flock meeting in West George-street chapel, three only of the original members of it being alive. May he long live to enrich the Church militant with the precious products of his sanctified intellect!—*From a Correspondent.*

**YOUNG MEN'S MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION.**—The committee of this important auxiliary to the Baptist Missionary Society, have held, during the winter months, numerous juvenile meetings in London, the object of which has been to create a deep conviction amongst the young of the misery of the heathen, to promote systematic and intelligent effort, and to cultivate and draw forth a missionary spirit. Many of these meetings have been of the most interesting and important kind, and have been each attended by between 500 and 600 Sunday-school children and young persons. The following is a list of those places at which meetings have been already held:—Prescot-street chapel, New Park-street, Lion-street, Walworth, Shacklewell, Bloomsbury chapel, Harvey-street, Hoxton, Blandford-street, Devonshire-square, Homerton-row, Beulah chapel, Somerstown, Shakspeare's-walk, Windmill-street chapel, Finsbury, Spencer-place chapel, New-court School-room, Alfred-place chapel, Ann's-place, Hackney, Church-street chapel, Blackfriars, New Brentford chapel, Keppel-street chapel, Hammersmith, Islington-green, Regent-street Lambeth, Bow chapel, Battersea. In addition to the above meetings, at most of which dissolving views were exhibited, lectures on various subjects connected with Christian missions have been delivered monthly in the Mission-house, by the Rev. W. Brock, Rev. John Aldis, Rev. J. B. Brown, B.A., and the Rev. D. Katterne, all of which were very numerously attended. The results of these meetings have been peculiarly cheering, and we cannot but indulge the hope that many Sunday-school teachers, and other youthful Christians, have retired from them with increased thoughtfulness, and with increased desires to further the great work of Christian missions. In order to encourage Sunday-school children in their efforts to benefit the heathen, the Young Men's committee published 10,000 copies of a little work, entitled "The Heathen World," written by Mr. G. E. Sargent, of Eyethorne, a copy of which they presented to each scholar connected with the Baptist chapels in London. At most of the schools a missionary prayer-meeting was held on the first Sabbath afternoon in the year, at the close of which the gift-books were presented by the superintendents, on behalf of the committee. We have much pleasure in adding, that such an interest is now being excited amongst the young, that we cherish the hope that the 160 day and Sunday-schools connected with the various Baptist missionary stations will, at no distant date, be entirely supported by the children in our schools. A contribution of a farthing per week from each scholar would more than effect the object.—*From a Correspondent.*

**THE REV. DR. ALEXANDER.**—On Sabbath forenoon, this deservedly esteemed minister, whose recent call to London has been the source of considerable apprehension, announced to his congregation that he had determined upon remaining in his present charge. We have no doubt this announcement will be almost as gratifying to his large circle of admirers generally, as it was to the members of his own church. There are many weighty reasons for the propriety of the conclusions to which the rev. doctor has come; but we understand that the primary, if not the only one with him, has been the attachment which has been expressed towards him by his own flock.—*Scottish Press.*

**ABOLITION OF RECEIPT STAMPS.**—A correspondent writes:—"I have noticed your remarks respecting the reduction or abolition of sundry taxes, and whilst agreeing with you in the main, there is one tax which appears entirely overlooked, which I think well deserving of attention—I mean the Receipt Stamp Tax. This affords but a very small revenue, and its effects are, to a certain extent, morally and politically bad—morally, inasmuch as it is injurious to that fine feeling of rectitude which ought to be carefully cherished, by our being in the habitual practice of evading the payment of a duty enjoined by law; and politically, because the all but universal disregard of a known law of the land, is calculated to lessen the respect due to the laws. And yet this impost is so extremely obnoxious in interfering with the ordinary transactions of business, and in the implied want of confidence between tradesmen which the use of stamps indicates, that it is next to impossible to carry it out."

**DERWENT LAKE, Keswick,** is at this moment completely frozen over from end to end. The ice is unusually strong, and in the course of the past week many hundreds of persons from the town and neighbourhood—some of them having attained the good old age of four-score years—amused themselves daily upon the ice, mostly by skating.—*Cumberland Post.*

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## LAND AND LABOUR QUESTION.—THE WAGES OF SPITALFIELDS WEAVERS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—The discussion on the Land and Labour Question is, I learn, doing much good.

Sorry, very sorry, should I be to interrupt any attempt to assist the working man, especially on the subject of wages. As I have neither time nor inclination to occupy your columns on this or any other subject, you will, perhaps, allow a brief space for explanation.

Because I supposed your group of cases were extreme, I ventured to write simply to show that it was so in one instance. It is impossible to prove that there is no weaver getting as little as 5s. 6d., but that that sum is the average of wages is quite another thing. The method of taking an average must be known before much reliance can be placed on it. For instance, if you take the average of weavers' wages from Christmas 1848 to 1849, 5s. 6d. a week is too high decidedly. It will be so if taken from Lady-day to Christmas; from Midsummer to Christmas it will be rather too low; and from Michaelmas to Christmas 11s. will not be much too high.

Extreme cases do not commend themselves to my mind as valuable in scarcely any social subject as a basis of reasoning. Play or idle time brisk trade will remedy. No master of common sense will keep his men at play if he have plenty of orders he wants to have executed. There has been less of play for the last four months than at this season for about thirty years before.

There are other methods of reducing wages not so easy of cure; such as increasing the fineness of the fabric without an advance of price; giving out inferior materials and expecting an article produced as saleable as if made of best materials, by substituting cotton for silk, shute or worsted, &c. These and similar methods of oppression will, I fear, be hard to remove.

My observations on "statements of this character" have sometimes led me to an opposite conclusion than that at which you have arrived. If I supposed you had space for it, I would give you some specimens. Not a few of those statements are made to promote a pet scheme, are oftentimes hastily gathered, and at other times are so mismanaged as to secure incorrectness. Surely no one can give up the things he has seen, and heard, and known, without sifting statements that may contradict facts with which he is familiar.

Before I set about an explanation, I thought it right to show the letter and your remarks to some of the weavers. I did so, and asked them to read the article, and tell me which was right. I have not yet heard of one who differs materially from me. That diversity is, that 11s. a week is too low for the present time. They are sure, they say, the masters' books will confirm my statement. But what body of men can live with any approach to comfort on 11s. a week in London? and yet this is, after all, better than the winter of 1847-8, when the master weavers of Spitalfields alone, to say nothing of the city, Bethnal-green, and other employers, had 14,000 hands at play out of 20,000. The 6,000 at work made an average of wages, I suspect, somewhat less than 5s. 6d. a week, and bread was at least a shade higher than this season.

The correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* is unknown to me. I know nothing of his sources of information, I am quite unacquainted with his method of taking wages, nor am I aware what his objects are in collecting and publishing his information; but this I know, that the statements I have made were gathered from the men, in some instances, while plying their looms, without any other specific object than that of giving and receiving information in friendly conversation. With submission, I beg leave to say, I have no doubt of their correctness. If 11s. a week be not an average low enough to give force to arguments for bettering the condition of the poor, I cannot help it; but to me it appears a fearfully low average of wages for men in full employ working in their looms on an average sixteen hours a day.

That some of the masters are cruelly negligent of their workpeople is certain, keeping the men waiting for an answer or work in the cold and rain, as the case may be, for hours, while attention is given to any trifle to delay the men. This is not called play, but is regarded by the men as reckless, heartless, cruelty and oppression.

I remain, yours truly,

B. WOODYARD.

6, Brooksby's-walk, Homerton, Jan. 19, 1850.

## CHAPEL EXTENSION AND BUILDING FUND.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—On the above subject I have taken some thought, and felt myself not only much interested, but I have been somewhat practically engaged in it; the letter of your correspondent, G. N., could not fail, therefore, to call up my particular attention. I pray you, give me a place in your columns for a few thoughts thereon.

It appears to me his plan does not relieve the churches from the payment of interest, that oppressive burden he so emphatically alludes to; whilst the plan which is in successful operation by the Baptist Building Fund does so, directly and effectively. G. N. proposes all the advances to be repaid in full, with an addition of 5 per cent. interest until the debt shall be redeemed, beginning so "soon as the congregation can support itself." Thus churches who may occupy these buildings will have the same intolerable burden of debt and interest that now presses down all who have this twofold burden upon them. 'Tis true, G. N. sets apart 2 per cent. of the interest to provide for other portions of the debt; i.e., "the interest due on the purchase of the ground," &c.; but the whole interest of 5 per cent. must be paid until the debt is redeemed, and that incumbrance upon the churches' exertions, and upon the means—and, in many cases, the comforts and necessities of the ministers—must be continued, with all its known and acknowledged evils.

It is not my object to criticise the plan of G. N., but to call his attention, and that of your readers, to what I consider a more excellent way. By the plan now in successful operation by the Baptist Building Fund, the whole of the interest is entirely removed, and all the law expenses and other grave objections to the mortgages proposed by G. N. rendered altogether unnecessary; in fact, the monies proposed by him to be paid as interest

will, by the Baptist Building Fund, become a *bond fide* relief to the churches, and pay £50 out of every £100 of their whole debt.

The subject is a most important one in every aspect of it, and a principle as important is involved in every attempt to meet the evil. Without now inquiring how far a sound principle is compromised in the splendid effort making by our Congregational brethren, as set forth in the list of contributors to this object; yet, with reference to that all-absorbing one which has occupied your pen and your columns—i.e., "willingness"—it is clear that this "willingness" does not form a feature in the plan of G. N. He does not touch it. His plan is simply—at least, so it appears to me—one of real business—a matter of commercial profit to the lenders who may require 3 per cent. per annum interest on their money; and this, with the debt, to be secured to them until the whole is paid by well secured mortgage-deeds. Now, the Baptist Building Fund is a system of "willingness" from first to last; it cannot possibly infringe upon principle in any point of view; it is the churches' own business, done by the church; voluntary in its origin, it is voluntary throughout. To exemplify its plan, I have taken the liberty of sending herewith to yourself and your correspondent one of my pamphlets on this subject, "Observations on Chapel Debt Extinction," Houlston and Stoneman, Paternoster-row; one of which please do me the favour to hand to your correspondent, G. N. I have also sent herewith two of the last Reports of the Baptist Building Fund, one for yourself and one for G. N., by which you will see the operation of the plan as it is now in progress, although on a limited scale, by that society.

I trust, Sir, you will do me the favour of giving a place for this communication, and with this the following letter, in which is shown by how small an amount, without any new machinery or new society, every healthful purpose of building, enlarging, and repairing our chapels, can be fully provided for. My only object in requesting this favour of you is, to aid in the accomplishment of that on which G. N. appears to have set his heart; and I pray the Lord to prosper and succeed that which shall have so beneficial a result.

I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

WILLIAM BOWSER.

TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE BAPTIST BUILDING LOAN FUND SOCIETY.

July 10, 1849.

DEAR BRETHREN,—Permit me to submit for your consideration a proposal for increasing the amount of our Loan Fund, which, if you approve, might be circulated with your annual Report.

If an annual collection from all our churches could be obtained, the amount raised thereby would far exceed £1,000, while the pressure upon individual members would be almost imperceptible. The Baptist Manual for 1848, page 37, states the number of our churches in the United Kingdom to be 1,911; presuming that 1,000 of these have ability to assist—the following division for the contribution of each church cannot be considered excessive, and, unquestionably, many can without difficulty exceed this estimate, viz.—

300 churches, collecting 5s. to 7s. each annually, I take at £100, or 5d. to 7d. each church per month.	
175 churches, collecting 10s. each annually, I take at £85, or 10d. each church per month.	
150 churches, collecting 15s. each annually, I take at £110, or 15d. each church per month.	
125 churches, collecting 20s. each annually, I take at £125, or 20d. each church per month.	
100 churches, collecting 30s. each annually, I take at £150, or 30d. each church per month.	
80 churches, collecting 40s. each annually, I take at £160, or 40d. each church per month.	
70 churches, collecting 50s. each annually, I take at £175, or 50d. each church per month.	

I, therefore, most earnestly recommend this proceeding to our churches as an easy mode of discharging the duty we owe to each other and to the cause of Christ. It is not to be expected that all the churches will at once resolve on such a measure. I trust that many of them will, because they have this encouragement, that £100 collected this year remains in circulation; and if the same course is adopted next year, £200 will circulate; thus a few years' perseverance will raise a permanent fund equal to the requirements of the denomination.

I submit, the amount required from each church is so small, that it cannot in the least interfere with any other efforts of the church. The evils of our begging system, and the advantages of the Loan Fund, have been referred to in your reports. I offer these remarks from a conviction that very small amounts will accomplish our object: I have proved it through a progressive calculation to the termination of the year 1878, upon the basis exemplified in the annexed table.

Provided 1,500 churches would agree to take from their monthly collections for the poor,† each church an average of twenty pence per month, adopting for themselves either class in the table, and transmit the same half yearly to the treasurer of the Loan Fund—these monthly contributions added to the £500 per annum raised by present subscriptions, the result at the end of 1878 would be, that having paid off debt to the extent of £180,000, there would remain a vested capital of £58,000, and the committee be in possession of the power to lend, as the instalments are paid, five thousand pounds every six months. No other chapel debt would exist, the burden of interest be unknown, and an ample fund be in perpetual operation, adequate to supply every claim for building or repairing our chapels.

I am, dear brethren, yours truly,

WILLIAM BOWSER.

It is proposed that	
450 churches take from their monthly collections	
6d. per month each church, it would amount	
to, say per year .....	£100
350 .....	200
250 .....	300
200 .....	400
150 .....	500
100 .....	600

1,500 churches, averaging 1s. 8d. per month each church £1,500

\* Will you forgive me in calling to your notice that this is only so many pence per month per church?

† Reference is made to these particular collections only to illustrate the easy mode in which churches can contribute, by authorizing their deacons once for all to appropriate and transmit such amounts to the treasurer. If some object to this mode, each church can adopt that most in accordance with its own views, and generally perhaps one or two individuals would engage to remit so trifling an amount on behalf of the church to which they belong.



## A VOICE FROM IRELAND.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—A great deal has been written relative to the excellences of the *Noncon*, and several plans have been suggested for increasing its circulation. Perhaps no one wishes its extensive circulation more sincerely than myself, as I have always regarded it as an admirable exponent of great principles, and an able, manly, and consistent advocate of all desirable and righteous reforms both in Church and State.

Some of your correspondents have suggested that wealthy subscribers should forward copies of your paper to poor country ministers, and others who are not able to purchase it for themselves. There are many such in England whose hearts would be gladdened, and whose principles would be strengthened, by the adoption and precaution of such a plan. But allow me to say that Ireland is a very proper sphere for indulging in such acts of benevolence. Protestant dissent is in a miserable condition in this country, and especially in the south and west. Presbyterians and Wesleyans are far from being numerous in these parts; and it is well known they are not thorough-going anti-state-churchmen. Their separation from the Established Church is in one case the result of hatred to *prelacy*, and in the other, the result, perhaps, of a love of excitement in some instances, and in others, of a desire to do good. It is important that both these bodies of Christians should have the opportunity of examining the anti-state-church question, and of obtaining information respecting the efficiency of the voluntary principle. Then there are a few Baptists and Independents. Some of the ministers in connexion with these denominations are from England, and greatly lament the absence of all aliment for the nourishment of the spirit of genuine nonconformity, and all sympathy with consistent voluntarism. Such men would hail the occasional arrival of the *Noncon* with delight. Most of their Irish brethren would be equally thankful for the same favour. A few of these men do purchase your paper, but the poverty of their people and other causes compel most of them to deny themselves this gratification. The members of the Congregational churches in the Emerald Isle require much instruction respecting the grounds of dissent and the evils invariably connected with *State-churchism*. In many cases there still exists in the minds of practical Dissenters great veneration for Mother Church, and an utter dislike to all agitation, having for its object the exposure of her defects. Such a state of things is most deplorable, and partly accounts for the weakness of the Dissenting body in this country. The Church party, too, is in many places absolutely rude and insolent towards the ministers and members of the nonconforming bodies of Christians. It is not long since the writer was written to, and condemned in a violent manner as "a schismatic, in the fullest sense of the term, rending the harmony of the true Apostolic Church," by a clergyman.

I have lent the copy of the *Noncon*, that usually reaches me weekly, to persons of different persuasions. Intelligent Roman Catholics, as well as others, regard it as an honest and talented defender of *right* against *might*. The extensive circulation of your paper, and similar productions, is greatly needed in this country, and I am persuaded would help to bring about the time, so much to be desired, when "every plant which our heavenly Father hath not planted shall be rooted up."

Wishing you much success, I am, yours sincerely,  
Jan. 5, 1850. THETA.

IS AFFIRMATION LEGAL ON THE PART OF  
DISSENTERS?

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

MY DEAR SIR,—I have felt interested in a solution being given to an inquiry made by a correspondent in a recent number of the *Nonconformist*; viz., whether Dissenters may avail themselves of the law which allows Separatists to affirm in lieu of objection; and as, in common with your previous correspondent, I am anxious that individual Dissenters who object to oaths may obtain the advantage which this law gives to a *sect*, if it can be done conscientiously and legally, I venture to state some reasons which appear to make it highly probable that such may be the case.

In the interesting debate in the House of Lords, on Mr. P. Wood's Affirmation Bill, last session, Lord Denman, in his excellent speech, said, "the same advantage (of affirmation) had been extended to a sect called Separatists, of which no one could give any definite account." And on the same occasion it will be found the Duke of Argyll stated, "that nothing could be more extravagant and absurd than the existing state of the law. It admitted Quakers, Moravians, and Separatists—a sect which he believed no noble lord was able to define; and, what was very remarkable, no person availing himself of the existing law was bound to prove that he was either a Quaker, Moravian, or Separatist."

Now, although this sect of Separatists may be that described in Craig's Dictionary as "a religious sect which originated in Dublin about 1803," yet the spirit of the law was for the relief of their religious objection to an oath, and may be conscientiously claimed by those "whose leading principle," like theirs, "is a desire to return more nearly to what they conceive to be the primitive form of Christianity."

And then, again, the indefiniteness of the term "Separatist," and the law's not requiring proof of being one, together with the fact that Dissenters are such in a certain sense, appear to be good reasons for legally claiming the advantage it confers.

Encouraged by these considerations, I tested the matter at an inquest yesterday. When being called on for the first time as a jurymen to swear, I asked the coroner whether I might not claim the advantage of a Separatist, and affirm. My application was treated most courteously, and resulted in my being discharged from jury-service in that instance, to allow the coroner an opportunity of ascertaining the bearing of the law on such a case.

I remain, my dear Sir, yours very faithfully,  
C. R.

Dorking, January 12th, 1850.

REDUCTION OF RENTS.—The *Mark Lane Express* of Monday devoted a whole column to the lists of noblemen and others, who have submitted to a reduction of their rents, varying in amount from £10 to £20 per cent.

## CHEAP BIBLES.

On Thursday evening the third public meeting, convened "for the purpose of pointing out the serious evils entailed upon the females employed in the production of the cheap Bibles issued by the British and Foreign Bible Society, and for the purpose of devising means for the amelioration thereof," took place at the London Mechanics' Institution, Southampton-buildings, Holborn.

Mr. FRANCIS BENNOCK took the chair, and in explaining the objects of the meeting, stated that he wished it to be understood that he was no partizan in the matter to be discussed. He had no connexion whatever with the Bible Society; and considering the movement that society had recently made, he was thankful he did not belong to it. He was here for the purpose of assisting in the inquiry, and of gaining information upon this important subject. When they found a public society which had been established for the diffusion of the Holy Scriptures so conducting themselves that the Bibles which they disseminated became rather a curse than a blessing, it was for them to consider whether they would do more good by supporting that society or by letting it fall to the ground.

Mr. DUNNING, secretary to the Bookbinders' Society, stated that since the last meeting a memorial had been addressed to the Sunday-school teachers, which had led to a very favourable result. They had also sent a letter to the Archbishop of Canterbury upon the subject, stating that they had forwarded two memorials to the committee of the Bible Society, but without effect, and they therefore prayed that his grace would exert his influence in support of their cause. The right reverend prelate had returned the following answer to the application:—"The Archbishop of Canterbury acquaints Mr. Dunning, in reply to his letter and appeal, that he has never taken any part in the details of management of the British and Foreign Bible Society, or attended any committee meetings. He cannot, therefore, with propriety interfere now in the question which has been so much agitated concerning wages, and on which the committee, who have considered the matter from the beginning, are alone able to judge correctly." Mr. Dunning proceeded to comment upon this letter, and stated that it was a matter of deep regret that the Archbishop had not thought proper to view the application in a manner more favourable to their interests. He had received several letters from clergymen expressing their regret and indignation at the conduct of the Bible Society, and he was also informed that a branch of the institution had dissolved connexion with the parent society.

Mr. L. J. Hansard, Mr. Horry, Mr. R. J. Pocock, and several other gentlemen, addressed the meeting in support of the objects in view, and the following resolutions were adopted:—

That the continued silence of the British and Foreign Bible Society, under the implication of circulating the holy scriptures by means which its precepts expressly forbid, is, by being conclusive evidence of the justice of such imputation, discreditable to that society, and calculated to injure the cause of piety and true religion.

That the fact of procuring cheapness of the Scriptures, by reduction in the price of labour, is that for which this society is alone responsible; and the attempt of its committee to throw the onus thereof on their contractors, is a subterfuge unworthy the high position they assume—their object appearing to be, to throw discredit upon the statements of the workpeople; while they carefully avoid bringing such statements to the proper test, which they alone have the means of doing, namely, by causing the wages book of their contractors to be impartially examined, as urgently requested in memorials to them.

That this meeting regards with sorrow the letter of the Archbishop of Canterbury, one of the vice-presidents of the Society, declining to interfere in causing the production of the wages book as requested; whereby this most painful controversy might be brought to an issue by the truth of the whole matter being made manifest.

That this meeting views with gratitude the efforts of those connected with the associations and auxiliaries of the British and Foreign Bible Society, of the Sunday-school teachers, and the public press, who have taken up the inquiry with a view to elicit the truth; and also of those who have rendered pecuniary aid.

That this meeting pledges itself to bring the matter continually before the public until the evils complained of are removed, believing them to be utterly inconsistent with the holy precepts of the Divine Author of our religion.

A vote of thanks was then passed to the chairman, and the meeting separated.

ST. HELEN'S SAVINGS' BANK.—The total amount of defalcation, speaking from data which have been collected, is about £10,000, or rather, we should say, that sum will clear it, and it is believed Mr. Johnson and his brother have sufficient property to cover it. The amount of the bank liabilities has been represented as £13,000; it is supposed they should be £23,000. Though the trustees have not got them, there can be no doubt that the fraud was carried on by means of duplicate books, and Mr. Johnson appears to have regularly entered and paid interest, from some source or other, upon the amounts abstracted to the accounts from which they were taken, and also to have made an account straight where he found the parties in whose name it stood were about to alter it, and there was a danger of an *exposé*. This, however, he effected by merely taking sufficient from some other account, or, in common phraseology, "robbing Peter to pay Paul." Of course the sub-actuary, his brother, who kept the books, was cognizant of all this, as he admits, and actually effected the transfer; but he denies that he got any pecuniary benefit. It is but justice to state that both brothers have made over the whole of their property, by a legal instrument, to the trustees, to be applied in liquidation of the claim upon them; and it is thought that, if the sum eventually made out be not more than £10,000 or £12,000, that there will be sufficient assets. We trust this may be true.—*Manchester Courier*.

## PROTESTANT DISSENTING DEPUTIES.

On Friday, the annual general meeting of Protestant Dissenting Deputies was held at the King's Head, Poultry. John Remington Mills, Esq., in the chair.

The report for the past year detailed, at great length, the action taken by the committee with respect to the question of church-rates, the India Marriage Bill, the India Property Bill, the Rev. J. Shore and the Clergy Relief Bill, the Charitable Trusts Bill, the Australian Colonies Bill, the Titles of Congregations (Scotland) Bill, the new Post-office regulations, and the grievances affecting Dissenters generally. These grievances the committee ascribed to the connexion between Church and State. They recommended the adoption of petitions against the *Regium Donum*, for the entrance of Dissenters to the Universities, and for the removal of those restrictions generally which pressed on them, and of those privileges which were granted to the Established Church to the great injury of the Dissenting body, and which were inconsistent with the principles of civil and religious liberty. The report also strongly recommended to Dissenters to avail themselves of the franchise, through the instrumentality of the freehold land societies, as a means of giving legislative effect to their peculiar convictions.

Mr. EVANS (barrister-at-law), in moving the adoption of the report, said a most important case respecting the church-rate question was now pending before the Court of Exchequer Chamber. On the decision of that question it depended whether the churchwardens of a parish, with the sanction of a minority, could impose a church-rate which had been disapproved of and rejected by the majority. It was impossible to say how that question would be decided; but whatever the decision might be, it was desirable that the Dissenting body should consider what course they would adopt. If it were decided contrary to their views and wishes, he was sure that steps would be immediately taken to impose a church-rate in places where it was now not even thought of [hear, hear]. With respect to the extending of the elective franchise by means of allotments, he considered it deserving of the support of the friends of civil and religious freedom; but they should be careful to impress on the working classes that it was not intended by these allotments, to offer them a means of subsistence independently of their exertions in their several callings. He recommended to the deputies and to the Dissenters generally more energy than they had heretofore exhibited.

Mr. CARLISLE seconded the motion. It was time for them to exert themselves when they saw the establishment of a central board of education in Jamaica—to be extended by-and-by—composed in a great measure of the bishop and clergy, which required that licenses should be obtained from them by teachers before they could give instruction in schools [hear, hear].

The CHAIRMAN said that the question of church-rates had become more important in consequence of the first report of the commission appointed on the motion of Lord Ashley, stating it as their opinion that the district churches should be made district parishes [hear, hear]. If they were not on the alert the amount of church-rates would probably be, doubled.

Mr. BIDGOOD enforced the necessity of more energetic action, and recommended that the main work should be done by the general body, instead of by a committee. As at present constituted, the deputies had not the confidence of the general body.

Mr. EVANS said that he sympathized in the observations of Mr. Bidgood, but did not agree that the course proposed by him would infuse new vigour into the body.

Mr. EBENEZER CLARKE assured Mr. Bidgood that the committee were anything but an idle body. He (Mr. Clarke) had formerly thought them such, but since he had been one of them he had found himself mistaken.

After a few words from the DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN (T. Pewtress, Esq.), the motion was put and adopted.

The accounts for the year showed receipts amounting to £374 16s. The disbursements amounted to £198 3s.

The committee for the next year were chosen, and a vote of thanks to the Chairmen and Treasurer terminated the proceedings.

THE SUPPLY OF COTTON.—There is much reason to fear that the crop of American cotton will this year be scanty enough to increase its price so far as to affect considerably the manufacturing prosperity of this country, and the question of its cultivation in our colonies again rises into importance. The Manchester Chamber of Commerce have held a special meeting to take the subject into consideration. The Chamber declared their opinion that, contemplating the early expiration of the East India Company's charter, a special commission of inquiry should be sent forthwith to India to examine into the condition of the country, especially within the Presidencies of Bombay and Madras, with a view to ascertain what are the obstacles to the growth of cotton, and to the extension and permanence of a profitable industry in the cultivation of the soil. The directors of the Chamber are to prepare a petition for presentation to the House of Commons, and a memorial to Lord J. Russell, urging the appointment of such a commission, and to take such steps as to them may seem desirable to obtain the co-operation of all parties concerned in the cotton trade in the promotion of this important object.



## FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

## FRANCE.

## THE LAW ON PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

A discussion in the Legislative Assembly, on the organic law relative to public instruction, is the most important part of the intelligence from France this week. The nature of this bill we have already described.

M. Barthélemy St. Hilaire, in opposition, occupied the whole sitting of Monday. He attacked the bill as one which would ultimately lead to the destruction of the University, an evil that would leave the State unable to prevent the imparting of doctrines subversive of its own constitution. It would create a monopoly in primary instruction, most for the advantage of the clergy, since the members of the religious bodies devoted to teaching would be those who would principally obtain diplomas as teachers, although the laical teachers are to the clerical teachers as 40,000 to only 3,000. Referring expressly to the Jesuits, M. St. Hilaire declared his opinion that their reappearance in France as a body would be illegal.

The Bishop of Langres defended the religious body in France, and characterised the bill as one of peace, concord, and compromise. He declared that the Church accepted it, with reservations of full liberty as to its worship, its instruction, and its aims, and the power to retire from co-operation if unexpected effects should demonstrate the new path to be contrary to its faith.

M. Victor Hugo made a speech in favour of the Voluntary principle in religion, interspersed with declamations against priestcraft and the Jesuits. The hon. member was interrupted at almost every sentence by loud cries from the fanatical members of the Right, the party of "order"—while the approving exclamations from the Left were scarcely less annoying. He commenced with stating his wish to see an extensive public instruction given and regulated by the State. He wished that its starting-point should be the village-school, and that it should rise as far as the Institute; he would have the gates of science set wide open to every capacity. He would not have a commune without a school, not a town without a college, not a chief town without a faculty—(interruption). He wished that France should present a vast ensemble, a sort of network of intellectual workshops. France should present a vast network of intellectual workshops, a group of gymnasiums, of colleges, and of libraries, without any solution of continuity. But the State must be laical. He would not introduce into the councils of surveillance either bishops or delegates of bishops. He wished for the complete separation of Church and State, for that would tend to the interest of both. The bill proposed he regarded as a strategic one; it was the *chef-d'œuvre* of the clerical party. He could not personify that party; he did not see it in the Assembly; he did not see it in the Government. God forbid that he should be supposed to make allusion to the Bishop of Langres, but he could not help expressing his distrust at the clerical party; he would not entrust it with the development of the rising generation; he would not confide to its hands the future welfare of France. The bill had one great fault—it said one thing and did another. It was like the usual plan of the Government, every time that it forged a chain it called it liberty; when it decreed a proscription it gave it the name of an amnesty. In the remarks that he had made, he did not mean to confound the church with the clerical party, for the latter was the disease of the former. Free religious instruction was the Sisters of Charity by the bedside of the dying; the Brother of Mercy releasing a slave; Vincent de Paule sheltering the orphan; the Bishop of Marseilles in the midst of those affected by the plague; the Archbishop of Paris facing, with sublime smiles, the furies of the Faubourg St. Antoine, raising the crucifix over the heads of civil war, caring little about meeting death, so that he could secure peace. The clerical party was an ancient one; it had a past of several centuries; it was it which discovered that truth was but ignorance and error. Its history was written in that of all the progress of the human mind, but it was written at the back of the page. It was it which put Campanella seven times to the torture, for having affirmed that the number of worlds was infinite. It was it which imprisoned Galileo, persecuted Columbus, and anathematized Pascal, Montaigne, and Molière. It had long sought to put a band on the human mind. And now it would be master of public instruction; but there was not a poet, a philosopher, or an eminent man, that would accept it. There was a book which appeared to be the emanation of human united with divine wisdom, which people called the Bible, and yet there had been Popes who had dared to proscribe that book; and this party claimed liberty of instruction; but the liberty which it really wished for was that of not teaching [approbation and laughter on the Left]. The clerical party wished to instruct, and it would be therefore well to look at what it had done for centuries, when Italy and Spain were in its hands. Thanks to it, Italy, that mother of nations, of poets, of genius, and of the arts, now knew not how to read. Spain had lost her rank among nations, but it was true that she had gained the Inquisition—an establishment which some in that Assembly had wished to re-establish [interruption]. He rejected the bill because it outraged French feelings, because it degraded instruction, lowered the level of science, and debased the human mind. He was one of those who felt the blood mount to his forehead whenever

France experienced a diminution of territory, as in 1815, or a diminution of intellect, as it was now wished to impose on her. He would give the clerical party a little serious advice: let it beware of the darkness caused in men's minds by the shade of the surplice. The clerical party was alarmed at socialism; it saw the waves rising, and it imagined that it will have saved society when it shall have combined material resistance with social hypocrisy, and placed a Jesuit wherever there is not a gendarme [explosion of murmurs, and prolonged bravos on the Left]. Let it, however, listen to advice. The nineteenth century was opposed to it; and, if it continued its course, it would raise formidable eventualities. It placed the Government in the sacristy.

The Assembly was at this time in a state of great agitation.

M. Victor Hugo considered that he had a right, when a bill was presented which he regarded as a public danger, to closely examine it [renewed interruption]—and his intentions ought not to be suspected. He had last year defended order when it was in peril, as he now defended liberty when it was threatened. Was this the kind of bills that were to be produced? Was France to be arrested in her onward course? The intention was to petrify human thought [laughter]. "In this age of discoveries," said the hon. member in conclusion, "you proclaim immovability; you pause on the road like men fatigued—fatigued with glory, genius, science, and knowledge! Do you not see that everything is in movement around you, and advances—you want to stop short [no! no!]. I declare to you, that if you repel progress you will have fresh revolutions; and to such men as deny the truth of that assertion, I reply by the declaration that the earth turns round. I shall vote against the bill" [loud applause from the Left].

On Wednesday, MM. Poujoulat and Bechard replied to, and M. Pascal Duprat defended, M. Victor Hugo.

On Thursday, MM. Laverne and Fresneau opposed the bill. The former, in the course of his speech, said, the law proposed would not produce the desired result—conciliation. There was nothing so dangerous as illusions, and, for his part, he did not believe that the presence of bishops in the councils of the University could realize a cordial understanding between that institution and the church. Their principles were so directly at variance that no reconciliation was practicable unless the University consented to burn all the books of the philosophers, or the clergy agreed to adopt them.

M. Montalembert followed, of course in defence of the measure. The University, he said, had betrayed French youth into the hands of the enemy who besieged society. Under the restoration the University had formed Liberals; under the monarchy of July, Republicans; and to-day, under the Republic, it produced Socialists. By Socialists he meant those who, after the 24th February, wished to substitute the red flag for the tri-coloured banner—who, on the 15th May, invaded the hall of the National Representation, and voted a contribution of 1,000,000,000 francs on the rich—who, in June 1848, killed more generals than fell at the passage of the Beresina—who, on the 13th June, outlawed the Assembly—whose ranks were swelled with men of wounded vanity and ruined fortunes—and who hoped to carry society by a *coup de main*. Their triumph would be the dissolution of all society. Socialism was called spirit of progress; he called it spirit of ruin and death.

On Friday (for the previous sitting terminated with M. Montalembert's speech), M. Cremieux, the Jew, destroyed the whole foundation of his anachronistic argument, by showing that the University, as at present constituted, was the creation of Napoleon, and could not be made responsible for a revolution which occurred nearly twenty years before it came into existence. He showed that the University, as it existed at the commencement of the revolution of 1789, was merely clerical; and that, although neither clerical domination nor clerical corporations were wanting to the ancient régime, they did not prevent the old monarchy from perishing. He also showed that influence on the part of the clergy was not wanting during the restoration, but that still that influence did not prevent the revolution of 1830. He contended that the spirit of the revolution of 1789 was not destroyed by the violence and disorder of 1793; and he instanced the fact of his (M. Cremieux's) appearance in that Assembly, and his taking part in a discussion such as this, as an argument which proved to the friends of clerical domination that the times had changed, and that the revolution of 1789 was something more than a chimera and a dream. He declared that it would be useless to attempt to destroy the effect of '89 by invoking '93. The old systems of Government which had then perished, could not be resuscitated; and the clergy should rest satisfied in limiting their efforts to their proper sphere—namely, religion. There were other religions besides that of M. de Montalembert. There were, for example, those of M. Cocquerel, and of himself; and he would ask if they had not the same rights with respect to education as any other sect?

The great speech of the day was that of M. Thiers, who declared that the bill was the inevitable consequence of the declaration made in the Constitution, that instruction was henceforward to be free in France. As that was to be the case, the great cause of dispute between the clergy and the University—namely, the admission henceforward of the pupils educated at the *séminaires*, or schools conducted by the clergy, to the examinations for diplomas in letters and sciences, and, consequently, to the liberal professions, was of necessity at once removed; and a measure drawn up in a spirit of conciliation,

to bring together the contending parties, was a natural consequence. This modification relative to the *séminaires*, he insisted, was the great distinguishing point of the measure; and he taunted the speakers on the other side with showing their ignorance of the real character of the bill, since not one of them had taken notice of the important fact to which he adverted.

On Saturday, M. Lagarde made an unequal reply to M. Thiers, and M. Cocquerel was called upon by the President, but preferred, as the house was impatient for a division, postponing his observations to a future stage, with the single remark, that the bill is one in which he sees neither real peace nor real liberty.

The Bill was then read a first time by a majority of 268, the numbers being 455 and 187.

THE REVENUE.—The *Moniteur* contains the financial returns for the year 1849; which confirm statements made by the *Journal des Débats* and the *Constitutionnel* that the national receipts for 1849 were 72,000,000 francs greater than those of 1848. The augmentation has occurred most especially in the customs duties. In 1848 these fell to 59,000,000 francs; in 1849 they rose to 83,000,000 francs—only one million of francs less than those of 1847. The reduction on the salt duty has not increased consumption so largely as was calculated by the Government; nor had the post-office reductions increased correspondence to the extent expected: but the estimate of total revenue had been largely exceeded.

SINGULAR MEETING.—The Paris correspondent of the *Times* mentions a remarkable meeting in Paris. The *Presse* lately reminded General Cavaignac of a declaration in the tribune, that he would defend the constitution with his life; Cavaignac called a meeting of Generals at his house, on Sunday, and they adopted a resolution to that effect.

REPRESSIVE MEASURES.—The journal *La Liberté* was seized on Wednesday, in consequence of an article entitled "Organiser la Résistance," and in which it was recommended to organize a legal resistance against any attempt at a *coup d'état*. Three Socialist leaders have been arrested at Beaucaire, and transmitted to the prison of Nîmes, for acts of violence on the persons of several young men who refused to join their association. A Socialist club has been closed by force at Begieres, department of the Hérault. The editor of *La Liberté* was sentenced on Wednesday to pay a fine of 500f. for having neglected to deposit a copy of his journal, according to the law.

A letter from Tarbes of the 12th inst. states that an avalanche has fallen on the town of Baresges, which has caused considerable injury to the public buildings.

The *Moniteur* denies the report respecting the determination of replacing General Changarnier by General Magnan in the command of the armed forces.

## SPAIN.

In the Cortes, on the 7th inst., it was announced by the Minister of Finance, that a bill for the arrangement of the national debt will be brought forward during the session. Notices had been given by Progressista members of motions to extend the electoral franchise to all Spaniards above twenty-five years old, and paying £2 of direct taxes; for the abolition of Government salt and tobacco duties; and for the establishment of "complete free trade throughout the interior of Spain."

Vigorous demonstrations in the direction of national retrenchment, and the restoration of the almost bankrupt finances of the country, have also been made in the Cortes. Senor Sanchez Silva and Senor Muchada have given notice of an amendment on the budget, to reduce the salaries of the Queen's household by £100,000 a year, the unmilitary departments of Government by £500,000 a year, and the department of war by £500,000 a year; to diminish the army to 70,000 rank and file; and to abolish the octroi after 1850. The financier, Senor Bermudez de Castro, has registered a more comprehensive notice of amendment, embracing a complete view of the national finances, and proposing a flat rejection of the budget until the Minister of Finance shall have proposed means for diminishing the expenditure and increasing the receipts.

On the 8th inst., the Minister of Finance, with the Royal approbation, demanded from the Cortes that the budget should be voted *without any discussion* of the amendments proposed on it. The committee appointed to consider this extraordinary proposal had approved of it by a large majority; and the Government adherents were so numerous and abject that it would probably be affirmed by the Cortes in full sitting. The Progressistas and Moderates had held a conclave on the subject, but separated without resolve to act together.

## PORTUGAL.

The Queen opened the Cortes in person on the 2nd inst., and delivered a speech announcing, among other things, that, "in conformity with the principles of a just reciprocity," her Government had obtained relaxations of the Russian tariff, and had conceded advantages to shipping under Swedish, Dutch, and Belgian flags. The speech announced the foundation in Angola of a new colony of Portuguese emigrants from Brazil, "which gives the most flattering hopes of prosperity."

## BELGIUM.

The Chamber on Saturday decided, by 61 against 31 votes, on rejecting that portion of the report of the committee on the war budget, which proposes a re-organization of the army, for the purpose of



effecting a greater economy in the military expenditure. The proposition was under discussion four days.

#### THE DANUBIAN PROVINCES.

The ill-judged compliance of the Porte in permitting the expulsion of those Polish refugees who had served in the Hungarian war, and in conceding the detention of Kossuth and the Hungarians, have exercised an influence as decided and as prompt upon the policy of the Danubian provinces. It has just come to our knowledge that Servia, which was so obviously labouring to extricate itself from Russian influence, has visibly relapsed on receipt of this intelligence. We learn that Simich, who was recently stigmatized by Petronovitch himself as the most thoroughgoing of the tools of Russia, has been appointed Minister of Justice, and that the reigning Prince of Servia has signed a declaration pledging himself not to permit any Servian to be in future sent beyond the frontier to be educated, unless in the Russian Empire.—*Daily News*.

#### TURKEY.

The letters from Constantinople of the 5th instant state that the official communications between the Austrian Minister and the Porte are still discontinued, and that the Ambassador confers with the Turkish Minister only in a few special cases of extreme urgency. That the affairs of the Orient are still out of joint is proved by the concentration of masses of Russian troops in Bessarabia, and by the armament in Turkey. It is expected that the first cause of the conflict will be found in the re-organization of the Danubian principalities.

#### RUSSIA.

**ALLEGED CONSPIRACY.**—St. Petersburg, Jan. 6. —The *St. Petersburg Journal* of this day mentions the discovery of a conspiracy by a number of persons, among whom were several officers, to overthrow the Government. Some of them were found to be persons of bad character, but others were the victims of fallacious promises. By command of his Majesty the Emperor a commission of inquiry was instituted. After minute and careful investigation, which lasted five months, his Majesty has granted a complete amnesty to all those who joined the conspiracy through inadvertence or thoughtlessness. The ringleaders, twenty-one in number, were tried by court-martial, and being convicted of an attempt to overthrow the empire, to subvert religion, and to abolish the existing state of things, were declared to be worthy of death, and were sentenced to be shot. The Emperor, after carefully reading the proceedings of the court-martial, commanded that the twenty-one ringleaders should have their sentence read to them in presence of the whole body of the troops, all the preliminary preparations for carrying out the sentence of death being also gone through, and that they should then be informed that the Emperor granted them their lives, and instead of inflicting upon them the sentence of death which they had merited, declared them to be deprived of all the their civil rights, and in proportion to the extent of their criminality to be sentenced to hard labour in the mines, to work at the fortifications, or to enter the army after a certain term of imprisonment. Nearly all these persons are young men.

**RUSSIAN FINANCES.**—It is stated that the Czar has given orders to MM. Turneyen, agents of MM. Steiglitz in Paris, to sell the two millions sterling of Stock that he has in the French Funds. A similar order has been given to the agents of the same house in London. The Russian Government, moreover, has taken measures for stopping all public works in the spring—even the works of the Crown are to be suspended—and all possible financial resources are to be placed at the disposal of the Minister of War at St. Petersburg.

#### WEST INDIES.

**JAMAICA.**—Files and correspondence from this island have reached us of the 23rd December. The Legislature had not been prorogued. A proposition emanating from Mr. Bristowe, a member of the "King's House party," proposing the levying of an "Income-tax," was negatived. All parties agree as to the necessity of upholding the island's credit; the only difference was as to the provision to be made. Mr. Lindo, of the Country party, had introduced a bill proposing to levy from 3d. to 1s. on each packet of goods enumerated in the schedule attached to the bill. This measure, although not a party one, was likely to be agreed to after certain amendments to the schedule, for which purpose the bill had been referred to a select committee.

The crops in Demerara are expected to be about 10,000 hogheads short of the usual supply.

The whole of the islands were represented as being generally healthy.

The Legislature of Bermuda was to meet on the 15th of January. The bill, making some provision for the clergy, expiring on the 20th of March next (with which our readers are already acquainted) was said to be the cause of the early assembling of the members.

**HAYTI.**—War is again devastating this unfortunate island. The Dominicans had taken some small towns and villages belonging to the Haytians, which they destroyed by setting the houses in them on fire. It is thought Soulouque will suffer a defeat. The Dominican squadron had captured a fleet of Haytian vessels. General Baez had addressed another proclamation to the Haytians, threatening the whole of the towns with destruction and pillage; and altogether a war of extermination and of revolting bloodshed appears to have again commenced.

#### INDIA AND CHINA.

The only really important event recorded in the

papers before us is the insolence of a petty potentate, the Rajah of Sikkim, in the Bengal Presidency, in having arrested and detained the British resident of Darjeeling, Dr. Campbell, while making a tour through his territories, together with the eminent botanist, Dr. Hooker. The latest accounts which had been received of the prisoners is thus given by the *Times*:—"A private letter has been received from Dr. Hooker. It is dated from the Rajah's residence, Tumlong, Sikkim, Himalaya. It gives the welcome assurance of his safety, and that of his friend Dr. Campbell, the Political Resident at Darjeeling. Dr. Hooker has been allowed considerable liberty. Dr. Campbell is more strictly guarded; but we know that the release of these gentlemen and an explanation of the Rajah's conduct have been demanded by the Governor-General. A rumour prevailed, moreover, that the question would be settled by the annexation of Sikkim."

The Governor-General of India arrived at Lahore on the 28th of November. Sir C. Napier arrived on the 30th of November. The health of the noble Marquis was said to be much improved. The rumour of Sir C. Napier's retirement from the command of the Indian army is positively contradicted.

The treacherous Sikh Sirdars, Chuttur Singh, Shere Singh, and the rest, were about to proceed to Calcutta, where they would remain, under surveillance, for the rest of their days. Narayan Singh was to be transported. "The Ranee," says the *Delhi Gazette*, "has been at her tricks again, and again she has been foiled. The object was to carry off Dhuleep Singh. The little Prince is, however, to proceed 'down country.'"

Rumours of insubordination in the north-west provinces were rife. From Cashmere there are complaints of the Government of Gholab Singh, who, according to the *Delhi Gazette*, was "carrying on a system of oppression and monopoly, of which all classes are complaining sadly."

The Madras Presidency was menaced with famine from the excessive drought.

Lady Dalhousie, it was believed, would proceed home, and the Governor-General would accompany her as far as Suez.

Major Edwards would bring home the celebrated diamond, the *koh-i-noor*, which is intended as a present for her Majesty. He will also, probably, be the bearer of a parcel of the wedding garments prepared for the intended bride of Dhuleep Singh, and which are to be sent to the Queen, in consequence of an expression of the royal wish to see some of the attire worn by the Sikh ladies.

In Canton there was nothing new beyond a fresh attempt, on the part of the Chinese authorities, to support monopoly for the sale of produce, with the view of extorting money ostensibly for the payment of the old Hong debt. A letter from Hong-Kong, Dec. 3, states that on the 1st inst. the vessels of war which left the harbour under command of Commander J. D. Hay, on a cruise against the formidable pirate Shapng-tsai, had returned, crowned with complete success, nearly the whole of the piratical fleet having been destroyed, without any loss whatever on the side of the British. The Chinese authorities co-operated with them. Only six small junks escaped; 1,700 men were killed, and upwards of 1,000 driven on shore, where they were speared by the Cochinchinese soldiers; some 180 being made prisoners by her Majesty's forces, were subsequently handed over to the Chinese authorities at Hainan. The chief, Shapng-tsai, it is reported, managed to effect his escape in a small boat just before his own junk blew up. Instructions having been sent from Earl Grey to the Governor of Hong-Kong to add two independent residents to the Legislative Council, Mr. Bondham summoned the justices to meet him on the 3rd of November, and intimated that he left it to them to name the persons, without any restrictions on their choice. This, as the editor of the *China Mail* remarks, is "a step in the right direction."

#### FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

**SNOW-STORM IN FRANCE.**—Accounts from the French departments speak of the immense quantity of snow that has fallen, and which has occasioned several disasters. Travellers lose their way, and a rural letter-carrier was found dead in the snow. In many cantons of the department of the Ariège the snow has risen to the coping of the houses. Many persons have perished in the avalanches, which are frequent; and whole flocks of sheep have been swept away. In the Jura the communication is completely interrupted, and many persons have fallen a prey to the wolves. In the streets of several towns the snow is more than three metres in depth. In the Saône and Loire, the wolves, impelled by cold and hunger, boldly enter the villages; and in one a woman was devoured by these animals, almost at the door of her house. In other places the bells had to be pealed during the day and night in order to serve as a guide to the traveller and to the field-labourer.

Dr. Achilli underwent a second examination on the 4th, by the fiscal procurator of the Inquisition, Dr. Bainbozzi, who, accompanied by his secretary, De Domenici, visited him for that purpose in the Castle of St. Angelo. Although the proceedings are secret, I have reason to hope that they will not be pushed to any great severity, and the fact of Dr. Achilli's not having been removed to the dungeons of the Inquisition seems to justify the accuracy of some hints which have been thrown out, of French protection not proving utterly unavailing in his case.—*Daily News Correspondent*.

**PASSPORTS IN FRANCE.**—In respect to the passport system, it has been decided to have recourse to a provisional measure, which, though it will not entirely remove the evil, will, it is hoped, diminish

it. It is not in the power of the President or the Government to decree the complete abolition of the system without the sanction of the legislature. Until a more propitious moment arrive for the formal abolition of the law, persons going to and coming from England will receive permits of embarkation, on board the respective vessels, on the payment of two francs only, and without any other formality.

**MADAME KOSSUTH.**—We have much pleasure in announcing that the wife of Kossuth has escaped from Hungary, and had reached Belgrade on her way to join her husband at Shumla.—*Daily News*.

**THE "OWN CORRESPONDENT"** of the *Times* at Vienna, is a teacher of languages, who would do much better to stick to his Lindley Murray, and his *quæ maribus*, than meddle with politics, of which he knows about as much as a Greenwich pensioner of tight-rope dancing.—*Daily News*.

Another bundle of Kossuth paper has been burned at Presburg. It is calculated that, of the sixty millions put in circulation by the revolutionary government, only five millions have been given up.

France still rejoices in a "sliding scale;" yet, says the *Journal des Debats*, "here, in Paris, we find the hectolitre of corn at 13 francs (equivalent to 29s. 11d. per imperial quarter), instead of at 20 francs, the average price; and not a finger has been laid on our custom-house system."

The fate of Venice is at length decided. The Island of St. Giorgio Maggiore has been the "free-port district" since the 1st of January. On the 1st of February, the transit duties between Venice and the Austrian territories cease.

The war-establishment of the Prussian army is as follows:—Infantry, 260,000; cavalry, 40,000; artillery and engineers, 12,000; total, 302,000; with field batteries in proportion. The standing army on the peace establishment amounts to, infantry of all arms, 87,078; cavalry, 23,345; artillery, 5,945; engineers' pontoon brigade, 1,624; landwehr, first class, 98,240; total, 217,232.

**ALLEGED APPOINTMENT OF THE BISHOP OF MANCHESTER AS TUTOR TO THE PRINCE OF WALES.**—A good deal of anxiety and inquiry has been caused in some quarters, during the last few days, by the appearance of the following paragraph in the *Courier* of Saturday last:—"The Lord Bishop of Manchester has, we understand, been appointed director of the studies of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales." We have the very best authority for stating that this paragraph is wholly without foundation; the fact being, as we are informed, that the office of tutor or preceptor to His Royal Highness has been conferred upon the Rev. Dr. Wilberforce, Bishop of Oxford.—*Manchester Guardian*.

**AUDIT OF RAILWAY ACCOUNTS.**—At an adjourned meeting of the railway directors, held on Wednesday, in Parliament-street, Westminster (the Earl of Lonsdale in the chair), it was resolved not to introduce any Audit Bill into Parliament, or to take any prominent part upon the question, since it would seem to be now viewed, though most erroneously, by a portion of the shareholders in some of the companies, as a question between the boards and their constituents, rather than between the body of shareholders and the Government. It is, therefore, to be left to the shareholders to take hereafter such course with regard to the question as they think fit; each board communicating to its constituents this resolution prior to the ensuing general meeting, in such way as may be deemed right. We observe that Mr. G. C. Glynn, on seconding the resolution, said—"Although they might think it inexpedient any longer as Directors to act in the matter, he hoped it would not go forth that there was the least diminution of feeling on the question of a Government audit." Mr. Denison hoped that it would go forth to the public, that the directors are perfectly willing to give every assistance to the shareholders in carrying out a plan for an audit of railway accounts. This course seems, under all circumstances, the wisest that could be adopted.

**THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY** has now laid down wires by which the transmission of messages from the branch office at Charing-cross direct to all parts of the kingdom can be effected at any hour during the day or night. This arrangement, from the proximity of the office to the houses of Parliament, law courts, &c., will increase the rapidity of telegraphic communications, both public and private, from the west end of the metropolis.

**THE GAME LAWS.**—We understand that the Secretary of the National Anti-game-law Association has received a letter from Mr. Bright, in answer to the communication of the committee, and that it is reported that he will renew his motion on the game laws soon after the meeting of Parliament. In the meantime, petitions should be got up in all parts of the country, and sent to Mr. Bright, so as to manifest public feeling for the repeal of those obnoxious laws, the cause of so much misery and crime.—*Scottish Press*.

**THE VEGETARIANS IN MANCHESTER.**—A vegetarian eating-house was opened in Manchester on Wednesday. Mr. Brotherton, M.P., who has abstained from animal food for upwards of forty years, presided over the feast. The following bill of fare is a novelty in its way: it would doubtless meet with unqualified approbation at Dr. Blimber's establishment:—Carrot and macaroni soups; savoury omelets and fritters; roast potatoes; boiled turnips, potatoes, cauliflowers, and beet-root; stewed celery and onions; fried buttered eggs; baked potato pie; apple tarts; rice puddings; preserves, &c.



## IRELAND.

**REMOVED MINISTERIAL MEASURES.**—The *Limerick Examiner* informs us, that Mr. Major, the Assistant-Barrister for Clare, lately gave an important intimation to the Clare grand jury, to the effect, "That he had high authority for stating a bill would be introduced in the coming session of Parliament which would preclude any landlord from recovering, by process of law, any rent that was not in keeping with the poor-law valuation." This would be a simple way of acting on one of the recommendations in our leading article. The poor-law valuation could be revised periodically and adjusted to the price of corn. —*Londonderry Journal*.

**MR. TORRENS M'CULLAGH** has addressed a letter to his constituents of Dundalk, instructing them as to their real interest in free trade. In a style that is at once solid and popular, concise and lucid, he reviews the history of protection in Ireland, and shows how its effect has been to increase rents for the absentee equally with the resident or improving landlord, but not to increase available employment for the poor or the people. This was especially the case under the operation of the act of 1783-4, which gave a bounty of 3s. 4d. on every barrel of wheat exported. The true remedy for the bad economical and social state of Ireland, Mr. M'Cullagh contends, is, "to give the occupiers of the soil a substantial interest in its permanent improvement. There is much on this subject that legislative interference cannot effect, but there is also much that a comprehensive tenant-law of compensation might do. Without it, I confess I see no prospect of relief for the burdens or renovation for the energies of the country."

**THE DOLLY'S BRAE AFFAIR AND THE ORANGE MAGISTRATES.**—The Roman Catholics of Ulster have drawn up a memorial to the Lord-Lieutenant, setting forth the facts of the Dolly's Brae case, and those of the subsequent course taken by Government, and petitioning Lord Clarendon to take further steps to bring to justice all the wrongdoers in the transaction. Specifically they pray Lord Clarendon "to prove to the Catholic people of this empire, that creed is no distinction where justice is concerned, by superseding in the commission of the peace those magistrates who, at a petty session held in Castlewellan, on the 9th of October last, refused to take information against persons proved to have formed a portion of an avowedly illegal assembly." A deputation of the Ulster Catholics waited upon the Lord-Lieutenant, on Thursday, to present their memorial. The Lord-Lieutenant declared himself "fully sensible how important it is that in the administration of justice distinctions of creed and party should be unknown," but said he did not feel that he could properly recommend to the Lord Chancellor the prayer for the dismissal of the magistrates. The magistrates were not personally implicated in the transactions impugned; they acted on their own judgment and responsibility in rejecting the informations; and they should not be removed merely because they declined to abide by the opinion of the law-officer of the Crown.

**THE GREAT PROTECTIONIST MEETING.**—The great Protectionist meeting of noblemen, proprietors, and tenants, was held in the Dublin Rotunda, on Thursday. The Marquis of Downshire was in the chair; the Marquis of Westmeath, the Earls of Shannon, Glengall, Roden, Mayo, Bandon, and Howth, Lords Castlemaine and Clements, and some half score of Members of Parliament, attended the muster; which, with J.P.'s, Doctors, and Esquires, swells to a list of a column long in the pages of a Protectionist journal. The Earl of Glengall moved the first resolution, in a speech insisting that the battle is not lost, but only begun; and urging the use of "the most gentlemanly persuasions" by all present to register a pure Protectionist constituency, against the ensuing elections. The Marquis of Westmeath said, as Lord John Russell is too much of a gentleman to be "inebriate" at his post, it could only be supposed that he is utterly unfit to be at the head of the Government. The meeting seemed very unanimous in sentiment. The first resolution recommended a petition to the Queen, setting forth the misery and distress to which the country has been reduced of late years. The second called for remedial measures to stay the downward progress of events. The third urged that a committee take instant steps to lay the petition before her Majesty. The fourth declared all Irish interests to have been sacrificed by the Imperial policy, the only remedy for which was a return to protection. The fifth was condemnatory of the Irish Poor-law. The sixth demanded the development of the great resources of Ireland. The seventh was favourable to an adjustment of the relations between landlord and tenant. The eighth called on the Irish members to support no political parties who would not listen to their just demands for redress. The ninth urged the propriety, in the event of the prayer of the petitioners being disregarded, of petitioning the Queen to dissolve Parliament. The meeting terminated at seven o'clock.

**AWFUL CATASTROPHE AND LOSS OF LIFE.**—An awful disaster has occurred in Killarney, by which a workhouse has been destroyed by fire, and twenty-seven girls and two women killed. The fire burst out about 11 o'clock at night, on Monday week, in a branch workhouse, formerly the college, when the cries of the wretched inmates from the windows for assistance were truly appalling. After ladders had been procured, the work of rescue commenced most nobly. Protestant and Catholic clergymen, magistrates, physicians, police, and people—all did their duty, but the result was a reported loss of three

lives. The most dreadful part of the business, however, remains to be told. The cry of "fire," and the livid glare of the flames, which forced its way into the Brewery (another branch house), awoke the sleeping children. Alarm for parents, friends, and relations, in the other house, made distraction and confusion. They beheld the burning pile from the windows. In their eagerness to go forth, they rushed madly to the doors and windows, but they were locked or fastened. They then sought an unused loft for the purpose of egress; but the rotten planks gave way—twenty-eight persons were instantly killed, and as many more frightfully mutilated. Another account says:—The building, formerly known as "The College," but for months in the possession of the guardians of the poor as an hospital, was found to be on fire at ten o'clock. So effectually did the devouring element grapple with every crevice of the edifice as to leave it a blackened heap of ruins in about two hours after the alarm was first given. It contained 162 patients in the morning, and fifteen of them are now missing. No exertion that humanity could suggest was omitted on the part of the artisans to save life, and no aid could be more efficient than that afforded by Mr. M'Clean, the superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum, who placed a body of his most active and courageous masons at a ladder, saying to one of the Catholic priests, the Rev. Mr. McDonald, "I believe you have influence here, Sir; hold by this ladder, and depend your life on Madden;" and well this Madden did his work. Child after child descended amid cheers. On the other side, the south of the building, extraordinary exertions were made on behalf of the poor sufferers with astonishing success. With the exception of one girl, who fell accidentally, all who could be reached landed safely. Dr. Murphy, the medical officer of the poorhouse, had a narrow escape in his successful exertions to save a child. Meantime, as the burning advanced, an alarm was raised in a second auxiliary workhouse, the Brewery, tenanted by nurses and girls. They could see the fire distinctly, both buildings being only a few hundred yards apart. They became clamorous that the doors of the dormitories should be unlocked, and as the person in charge was in the act of doing so, a portion of the flooring on which they stood gave way, hurrying to instant destruction twenty-seven growing girls and two nurses.

**DECLINE OF THE IRISH CONSTITUENCIES.**—The subjoined remarkable statement appears in the *Banner of Ulster*. Few persons wondered at the rapid disappearance in the south and west of £10 freeholders as a portion of the Irish electoral body; but that the class should be in process of annihilation in two of the "model counties" of Ulster does indeed excite surprise. "We have been making inquiries in various directions relative to the effect which the current pressure of the times has had upon the £10 constituencies of Down and Antrim, and we find, as we had suspected, that an immense proportion of this class of voters, in both counties, has been politically annihilated. In some districts with which we happen to be particularly acquainted, we learn that four-fifths of the men who a few years ago were fully qualified as £10 freeholders have been practically disfranchised by the rack-renting system, and could not now conscientiously take the qualification oath were an election to happen to-morrow."

**SEVEN FISHING-SMACKS AND THIRTY-SEVEN FISHERMEN LOST.**—We have to record a calamity of a most afflicting nature, involving, it is feared, a loss of life unequalled for many years by any event in connexion with the port of Hull. Seven fine fishing-smacks, whose crews numbered in the aggregate thirty-seven men and boys, which left Hull prior to Christmas-day, in 1849, and which should have returned a fortnight ago, have not since been heard of. It is supposed that the vessels perished during the gales of the 27th and 28th December. Various causes of this fearful loss of life and property are stated; but the most probable is, that they foundered on the Lemon-oar Sand, in consequence of the floating-light drifting from her moorings. A public meeting has been called to consider the best way of providing the thirteen widows and twenty-five children, rendered fatherless by this appalling calamity, with such relief as their afflicted case may require. Surely the benevolence of Hull will be equal to the occasion. —*Hull Advertiser*.

**WEST RIDING FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY.**—The number of shares taken already exceeds 200, and the applications from other parts of the riding for copies of the rules, &c., are numerous and pressing. Until, however, the rules are approved by the shareholders, the committee cannot issue any abstract or prospectus. It is, however, intended immediately after Wednesday to issue prospectuses, and to make arrangements to visit such districts of the riding as may signify or wish to unite with the society. —*Leeds Mercury*.

**CAVERSHAM PARK HOUSE**, the seat of Mr. William Crawshaw, the iron-master, was totally destroyed by fire early on Friday morning.

**LOSS OF THE PACKET-SHIP, "HOTTINGUER."**—A letter written on behalf of Mr. Henry Walsh, of Dublin, to Messrs. Fielden Brothers, at Liverpool, confirms a previous report as to the loss of the American packet-ship, "Hottinguer," with its commander and crew, on the coast of Ireland. When the vessel first struck, Mr. Bursley landed some of the passengers and his son near Arklow, and afterwards tried to work his ship clear of the banks, to the North; but it became unmanageable, got on to the banks, and was lost. One man was saved; but he has become insane, and cannot recount the affair.

## THE PROTECTIONIST AGITATION.

**LORD YARBOROUGH ON PROTECTION.**—The Earl of Yarrowburgh, in a letter addressed to Mr. A. Bouché, of Market Rasen, gives his reasons for declining to sign a requisition for a county meeting to consider the "depressed state of the agricultural and other branches of native industry." He expresses his belief, that the "good state of trade in our manufacturing districts, and consequent general employment of British artisans, directly contradict such a statement." He is "not prepared to attribute the present depression entirely to the effect of legislation;" but advises that the experiment of free-trade should have "a further trial" under ordinary seasons, and "in the absence of those dreadful revolutions which have obliged foreigners to send corn to this country to be sold at a loss to the importer." He would reconsider his tenants' engagements. He thinks the attempt to re-impose a duty for protection can only end in failure, after convulsing the country with agitation, and sowing the seeds of bitter animosity between the various industrial classes of the kingdom. [Lord Yarrowburgh was himself a stout Protectionist before the repeal of the corn-law.]

**RIOTOUS MEETING AT BASINGTOKE.**—At the meeting of the South Hampshire Protectionists, at Basingtoke, great indignation was expressed against Mr. Shaw Lefevre, one of the county members, on account of the Parliamentary excuse he sent for his non-attendance; he "must respectfully decline" to attend, "as it was not consistent with his duty to the House of Commons, that had done him the honour to place him in the chair, to take part in the discussion of a political or party question which must at some time or other be brought under the consideration of the House of Commons." Mr. Pyle, of Tufton, was much cheered when he abused Sir Robert Peel, and advised "a return to the old-fashioned sliding-scale, which would be fair to all parties." He did not care for Cobden; "all he cared for was that sophist Peel," whom he believed to be "capable of deceiving the very elect." Mr. Stratton informed the meeting that he held a farm of 1,000 acres, and that "the whole produce of that farm did not pay the labour." Last year he did not get back his rent out of his produce, "this year there was a loss of thirty-three per cent. besides his whole rental." Considerable interruption of the proceedings by the groans and shouts of a band of free-traders was raised in reply to the invectives of the Protectionists against the "scoundrel" legislators who had deserted them. Conflict ensued, and the free-traders were ejected after a battle of half an hour's length; after which the proceedings were "unanimous."

**AN AGITATING EARL.**—At the meeting of the Protectionists of Sevenoaks and its neighbourhood, on Wednesday last, Earl Stanhope presided, and vented a speech more than ordinarily full of personality and gloomy vaticination. "Though I entertain," he said, "the utmost contempt for the character and conduct of Sir Robert Peel," still the eminent station Sir Robert holds renders it necessary to allude to the letter he has addressed to his tenantry. In the beginning of his letter Sir Robert Peel says, the present low price of wheat is a "temporary and undue depression," consequent on there having been "two years of high prices," which led the farmers to sow "too great a breadth of corn." "We have been told," said Lord Stanhope, "in an old but true saying, that 'hars ought to have good memories,' and Sir Robert might have recollected that he presently declares 'the remedy' to be farming better, and producing forty bushels an acre instead of twenty." From this insinuation of Sir Robert Peel's mendacity, Lord Stanhope proceeded to speak contemptuously of Mr. Cobden's "integrity and intellect." That rents must be reduced no one was more ready to admit than himself; but this is the symptom, not the remedy of the disease. He believed that this is but one of the effects of free-trade. "God in his mercy prevent" that we ever should see all the consequences of the system; for the inevitable result must be revolution; and that revolution not a change in the person of the reigning sovereign, nor a conversion of an ancient monarchy to a republic, but "a complete social revolution, in its object, in its origin, and in its operation—one in which violence and anarchy will prevail, in which no life will be respected, and no property be secure." To those who have seen the storm arise—who have sat patiently at home taking no share, have deplored but taken no lead, in a movement that ought to shake the length and breadth of the land, and express itself in "thunder reaching to the walls of Buckingham Palace, and to the doors of Parliament,"—to those persons he cried, "Awake! arise! or be for ever fallen!" Mr. Atkins gave a statement of the produce of his farm for seven years, showing a difference against him of £537 yearly at present prices, as compared with prices at which he could live; and he answered the suggestions of his Free-trade friends to reduce his expenses, by showing, that if he were to save £130 in wages, to be allowed 20 per cent. of his rent, tithes, poor-rates, highway-rates, and church-rates, and could reduce the bills of his wheelwright, blacksmith, and harness-maker, by the same per centage, he should, after all, lessen his loss of £537 by only £289. Mr. J. Bell declared that Cobden is the jackall of the great moneyed interest—who alone have benefited by the low prices of the last thirty-five years. He echoed Earl Stanhope's forebodings of a "social revolution, such as the world has never witnessed before." Though not an alarmist, he declared, if the present system should be persisted in, he would not give two years' purchase for the rent of England, or the dividends upon the Funds.



**PROTECTIONIST FAILURE AT WORCESTER.**—The anticipated great (?) county meeting came off on Saturday, in the Crown-court of the Shirehall—a miserable place for a meeting of any kind, much more for a county meeting. The parsons, landowners, country squires, &c., expected to have it all their own way; and, in the absence of the High Sheriff from indisposition, voted the Hon. William Coventry into the chair. The court became crowded—hundreds upon hundreds of farmers, mechanics, and tradesmen, were unable to gain admittance—and a cry was raised of "Adjourn to the Hall;" the doors were thumped and kicked, and the party outside became increasingly impatient; order was at an end. The chairman, speakers, one after the other, in quick succession, sought audience—but no; the cry was, "We'll hear you till to-morrow morning if you'll adjourn, but not a word without!" Mr. Baldwin, of Birmingham; Mr. Laslett, a large landed proprietor and free-trader; T. Waters, Esq., and others, called for a fair hearing, but all to no purpose. Now farmers, now mechanics, roared, until the room became intolerable. Resolution after resolution passed in dumb show, and the chairman vacated his post. Three cheers were given for Free-trade, three cheers for Cobden, three for Bright, three for Sir Robert; and three, or rather three-and-thirty, tremendous groans for Protection. The chagrin, disappointment, and anger of the landowners, &c., was exceedingly great. After the chairman had left the chair, the two parties remained in possession of the court for nearly half an hour, and neither seemed inclined to move out; the uproar at times was terrific. No damage, however, was done, save in the breaking of one of the gas-lamps by a farmer in his eagerness to thrust his hand up in support of a motion which neither he nor any near him could hear read. The meeting was, to all intents and purposes, a dead failure. Had the landocracy and parsons adjourned to the Hall, they would, we believe, have been vastly outvoted. They are playing a desperate game, but it will soon be over.—*From a Correspondent.*

**VERY TUMULTUOUS PROTECTIONIST MEETINGS** were also held, on Saturday, at Croydon and Reading. At Croydon, an amendment in favour of free-trade was moved, and was supported by a very large portion of the meeting; but the chairman declared the original resolution to be carried; upon which a scene of great uproar and confusion ensued, and the meeting broke up in disorder. At Reading, the farmers, encouraged by the Marquis of Downshire, who advised them not to be put down by clamour, as at the County of Down meeting, had recourse to "physical force" to eject the "Free-traders," who revenged themselves by smashing the windows, and pelting the farmers as they came out. The meeting was a continued scene of uproar; and the venerable Earl of Radnor was assailed with the most brutal indignities, and cries of "Turn him out!"

**THE TAILORING TRADE.**—On Thursday evening, a public meeting of persons connected with the tailoring trade in the metropolis, was held in the large room at Exeter-hall. The object of the meeting, which consisted of upwards of 2,000 persons, was to consider the propriety of petitioning Parliament in reference to the present sloop and "middle" system, which, it was stated, injured the fair trader as well as the working people. Several working tailors addressed the meeting, one of whom stated that he had been employed by Moses and Son for several years past as a confidential man at the rate of one penny per hour, and expressed his regret that with £400,000 per annum the Marquis of Westminster dealt with that establishment. Another speaker observed that it was very well known that the working-men engaged in making clothing for the Government establishments, the Post-office, the Custom-house, and for the soldiers and police, did not get more than 1s., or at the most, 1s. 6d. a day; and a third speaker declared that for making a coat for a first-rate master tailor, patronized by the Duke of Wellington and other aristocratic customers, he had only received 5s., out of which sum he had to pay for candlelight and trimmings. The following resolutions, and a petition to Parliament founded on them, were adopted:—

"I. That this meeting strongly deplores the thickly-spread evils of destitution, misery, and crime, engendered by the sloop-sweating and middlemen system in the tailoring trade—a system which is, at the same time, ruinous to the honest tradesman, and which, if not held in check, is calculated to convey disease and death amongst the highest and noblest families in the empire, and ultimately to affect the well-being of the community at large."

"II. That this meeting is fully convinced that the only means of effectually dealing with an evil of such magnitude as the sloop-sweating and middlemen system, is by obtaining the sanction of Parliament to a law compulsory on all employers to have their work done on their own premises, including Government clothing."

**THE BRITANNIA BRIDGE.**—We learn from the Menai, that there is at length a complete roadway over the straits, the second great tube having been safely raised to its 100 feet elevation, and forming, by its junction with the other tubes, a continuous rigid wrought-iron highway, 18,401 feet long, and between 5,000 and 6,000 tons weight.

**VISIT OF MR. RICHARD CORDEN.**—We are informed that a letter has been received from this gentleman, in which he states, that the "insane" doings of the Protectionists have so altered the course of his arrangements, that he does not expect to be here before the meeting of Parliament; and he doubts whether, in his present temper, he is "a safe card" for our agricultural county.—*Ipswich Express.*

**SUICIDE AND SUPPOSED MURDER AT MANCHESTER.**—Considerable gloom has been occasioned in this city by the discovery on Tuesday week of a melancholy case of suicide and supposed murder, which took place under very mysterious circumstances. The deceased is Mr. Philip Novelli, a gentleman well known as one of the largest shipping merchants in this city. He was found yesterday morning, about 8 o'clock, hanging in his bedroom, with the rope attached to the bedpost, at his residence, Cliff-mount, Lower Broughton, and his sister-in-law, Mrs. Harriet Novelli, the wife of his late brother, Louis Novelli, was found quite dead, lying upon the drawing-room floor with a glass of gin on the table beside her. The jury have not yet held their inquest, we cannot therefore state anything further in the matter. Mr. P. Novelli was a widower. It is stated that he attended Prestwich Church, a distance of three miles from his house, on Sunday morning, in company with his deceased sister, and that they spent the evening together as usual.

**A GOOD EXAMPLE.**—In consequence of the tenantry under the Right Hon. Lord John Scott complaining of the damage done by the game to their crops, &c., his lordship had destroyed the whole of his extensive preserves in Warwickshire, dismissed his keepers, and given directions to the tenants to keep the game down by shooting all that they see on the land in their occupation.

## POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, Jan. 23, Two o'clock.

### BRAINTREE CHURCH-RATE CASE. EXCHEQUER CHAMBER, TUESDAY, JAN. 22.

JOSLIN V. VELEY AND ANOTHER.

This case, which was argued several months ago on a writ of error from the decision of the Court of Queen's Bench, came on yesterday for judgment.

Lord Chief-Justice Wilde, Mr. Baron Parke, Mr. Baron Alderson, Mr. Justice Maule, Mr. Baron Rolfe, Mr. Justice Cresswell, and Mr. Baron Platt, formed the Court; and, as their lordships did not concur in their judgments, they delivered them *seriatim*.

The case has been for several years before the ecclesiastical and common law courts, and has excited much public interest as "The Baintree Church-rate Case." It involves the important question, whether the churchwardens, and a minority of the parishioners, can make a valid church-rate? The following brief sketch of the history of the case may serve to explain the origin of the proceedings, and the point at issue. In the month of July, 1841, a vestry meeting having been called for the purpose of voting a rate for the repairs of the parish church of Baintree, and a motion made for a rate of two shillings in the pound, and the same duly seconded, an amendment was moved, and carried by an immense majority, denouncing all connexion between Church and State in general, and denouncing church-rates in particular, but not in specific terms negating the motion. After this amendment had been thus carried, the great majority of the parishioners left, and then, as stated in the pleadings, "the churchwardens and others of the ratepayers carried the original motion without opposition." When the inhabitants heard of this result they resolved to oppose the rate, and the churchwardens having commenced proceedings in the Ecclesiastical Courts against the plaintiff in error, the latter moved the Court of Queen's Bench for a writ of prohibition. The writ was granted, and on the return to it being argued, the Court gave judgment, approving of the proceedings of the churchwardens, thereby affirming the validity of the rate declared by the minority.

From that decision the case was brought into the Exchequer Chamber, on a writ of error, and at the sitting after Trinity Term, 1848, Mr. M. D. Hill was heard at great length in support of the case of the Dissenting parishioners, and in the following Michaelmas Term he concluded his arguments. Sir F. Thesiger was heard at great length on the other side, at the same sittings of the Court.

The Court now gave judgment. At this late period, it is impossible for us to do justice to the arguments on which the learned judges based their decisions. We, therefore, content ourselves with a bare outline of the judgment, reserving a full report of the same until our next number.

Mr. Baron Platt was against the writ of error. Opportunity had been afforded the dissentients for showing in the Ecclesiastical Court that the church did not require repair; but, not having done so, and having been monished as to making a rate, and the majority having refused to take part in the proceedings for that purpose, it seemed to him that the rate was properly made, and that the plaintiff, having property in the parish, was liable to the payment of it, and that the judgment of the Queen's Bench must, therefore, be affirmed.

Mr. Justice Cresswell took the same side. After citing a mass of legal authorities on the subject, he said that the balance of authority seemed to be strong in favour of the opinion, that if the parishioners, duly summoned, refused to make a rate, the churchwardens alone might do it. On every view of the case, on the reason of things, on general legal principles, and on analogy to corporate elections, he was of opinion that the judgment of the Queen's Bench should be affirmed.

Mr. Baron Rolfe was of opinion that the judgment of the Court below should be reversed. The parishioners assembled to discharge their common-law obligation of providing for the repairs of the church; they might make any arrangement between themselves for the same purpose; but imposing a rate was in the nature of a legislative act. The question was whether a particular amount should be paid, and that was not carried, unless voted for by the majority. It was said that the majority having in this case refused to take part in the proceedings, had thrown their voices away. That argument appeared to him to be more ingenious than sound. The duty was to make a rate, and Lyndewode said that if it were not done the whole body of parishioners might be punished by excommunication, though he pointed out that it ought to be inflicted only on those who were contumacious. The proposal was, that the churchwardens should, with the consent of four parishioners, impose a rate on the parish; but if the law had been as laid down by the Queen's Bench, that would have been unnecessary. Considering, then, that the only duty of the parishioners was to keep the church in repair, and that when they imposed a rate it was in the nature of a bye-law, which, to be valid, must be by the majority; considering, also, that if the majority refused to make a rate they might be punished for their contumacy; and, lastly, the proposals made by the commissioners in the reign of Edward VI., he was of opinion that the judgment of the Court of Queen's Bench should be reversed.

Mr. Justice MAULE stated very shortly the reasons for his concurring with those who thought that the judgment of the Court below should be affirmed.

Mr. Baron Alderson took the same side. If any rule of law was established it was this—that a person who misconducted himself at any meeting should be considered as absent. If, therefore, the majority in this case had violated their claim, the minority had nothing to do with it.

Mr. Baron Parke felt himself compelled to say that no valid rate could be made without the concurrence of the majority of the parishioners who were present, and, that not having been the case here, he thought the judgment of the Court below should be reversed.

Lord Chief Justice Wilde was also of opinion that the judgment should be reversed. The only legal authority to impose a church-rate was a majority of the parishioners in vestry duly assembled; and the rate in question not seeming to have been imposed by such a majority, and not having been put to the vote, it appeared to him that the judgment of the Queen's Bench was erroneous, and ought to be reversed. The majority who passed the resolution had set an example of a most dangerous tendency, and one likely to lead to endless mischief, if followed, but their acts did not destroy their legal majority or confer their authority on the minority. The learned judge said, that his individual opinion was, that the judgment of the Court of Queen's Bench should be reversed, but, the majority of the judges having given a contrary opinion, the result was, that

### THE JUDGMENT OF THE COURT BELOW MUST BE AFFIRMED.

*It is therefore now established by law, that a church-rate, made by the churchwardens and a minority of the parishioners, in opposition to the resolution of the majority, is valid.*

## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

**RUSSIA.**—THE TARIFF HOCUS-FOCUS.—The *Hamburg Bartenhalla* of Friday, on the authority of a letter from St. Petersburg, dated the 3rd of January, positively contradicts, as unfounded, the statement of the *Globe* that negotiations were going forward between the Governments of Russia and England with reference to commercial changes. The tariff question remained, as before, *in statu quo*.—[Very singular that such a statement should have been made just before the proposal of the Russian loan.]

**THE HUNGARIAN REFUGEES.**—The *Times* Constantinople correspondent gives a definite explanation of the reason why Austria refuses to renew friendly relations with the Porte. The former power wishes to determine the length of time during which Kossuth and his friends should be detained as prisoners in the Ottoman Empire. The Turkish Ministry made known to Count Sturmer that they were willing to confine the Hungarian refugees to the town of Kutiah [in Asia Minor] till order should be established in Hungary, and, that country once in repose, they would then restore Kossuth and his companions to liberty; and they added, that they would reserve entirely to themselves the right to determine the period at which these refugees should be set at liberty.

MR. CORDEN was at Sheffield yesterday, and met with a most enthusiastic reception at the Music Hall. This morning he is to be entertained at a public breakfast.

### CORN EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 23.

Of Grain this week there is but a short supply; but of French and American Flour there is a still further large arrival. The trade here to-day is extremely heavy, with every appearance of lower prices.

Arrivals this week:—Wheat—English, 490 qrs.; Foreign, 3,010 qrs. Barley—English, 1,310 qrs. Oats—English, 670 qrs.; Irish, 890 qrs. Flour—1,680 sacks.



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#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE CASE OF DR. DICK.—We have received 10s. from "A Christian Friend," Worcester, and 7s. 6d. from a friend at Birmingham, as contributions towards any fund which may be raised for Dr. Dick, of Broughty Ferry. In a letter to the *Dundee Advertiser* of Tuesday week, Dr. Dick has a letter correcting one or two trifling inaccuracies in the kind appeal made in his behalf by Elihu Burritt. Having made these corrections, the Doctor then adds—"About three years ago I was advised by certain respectable gentlemen in Dundee to apply to Government for a small pension from the fund allotted to authors, &c., and I feel particularly indebted to that respectable gentleman, Provost Thomas, of Dundee, for the great trouble he took in preparing and forwarding the memorial to Lord John Russell. But no answer was ever returned to this memorial. It has been again renewed, but the success with which it may be attended is still doubtful. This is the only instance in which I have laid open my case to the British public. With regard to the paragraphs which have lately appeared in certain journals and newspapers, I have had no concern whatever, in the remotest manner, with their insertion.

And now, when I am constrained to appear before the public, and to indulge so much in egotism, I shall plainly and unreservedly state the items of my income. I have an annuity of £20 from a scholastic establishment I formerly occupied. I have about £23 from rentals, subject to deductions of feu-duty, poor's rates, window-light, &c. I have a few pounds in the bank, which is gradually melting down, and which serves to supply the deficiencies of regular income. By dint of the most rigid economy we have been hitherto enabled to move onward, though without some of those comforts we could have wished, notwithstanding some considerable encumbrances. I keep no servant, give no social dinners, walk short journeys when I am able, or take the lowest-priced railway carriages; and in this way we have kept ourselves free from any serious debts. In consequence of repeated attacks of illness I have written nothing for the press for two or three years past. But if the public think my writings have been of any use to society, and were they disposed to present a pecuniary *Testimonial* on this ground, I certainly would not refuse it. A small addition to my income would enable life to move on a little more smoothly than hitherto, and enable me to promote the education of my female orphan grandchildren."

"An Anglo-Saxon."—"Enough is as good as a feast."

"W. W."—A hopeful attempt; but requiring further exercise.

The Communications on the subject of "Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister" have come to hand. We propose to treat of the subject in our next number.

"A Deacon."—We cannot insert any more upon the subject.

"W. F." must become personally responsible for his communication if he wishes its insertion.

"A Constant Reader."—We are obliged to him for his kind intentions, but we had already resolved to discontinue all further reference to the topic, for the present year, at least.

## The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JAN. 23, 1850.

#### SUMMARY.

ONE of the most impressive public meetings which it has ever been our good fortune to attend, whether in the metropolis, or out of it, was that held at the London Tavern on Friday last, to give expression to the popular feeling on the subject of the Russian loan. A noon-tide assembly is usually smaller, less excited, and more business-like, than one held in the evening—but on this occasion, the room was not spacious enough to contain one-half of those who eagerly sought admission; and they who filled it, although little disposed for noise, exhibited the intensest interest in what was addressed to them, from the commencement of the meeting to its close. Mr. Charles Gilpin presided, and by the force and pertinence of his opening remarks, as well as the firmness and urbanity of his conduct in the chair, contributed not a little to the smooth progress of the proceedings. Mr. Cobden was foremost of the speakers—and, judging from the space occupied by his speech in the printed reports, he must have taken considerable time in the delivery of it, although, assuredly, the idea never occurred to us whilst engaged in listening. It was a magnificent effusion, or, to vary the figure, a plain edifice of logical eloquence, colossal in its design, symmetrical in its proportions, and perfectly overpowering in its effect. Never did the autocrat

of Russia stagger beneath a blow more artistically aimed, or more powerfully dealt. That it told, we need no other proof than the violent outcries which followed from the oligarchic press. It could not, of course, prevent Russia from obtaining the loan, that having been subscribed for before the speech was made. But there is hope that it will, at least, prevent the distribution of it among the unwary and the guiltless. The great capitalists have it in their own hands, and in their own hands Mr. Cobden has taken care that they shall keep it.

The Protectionist agitation is writhing in the convulsions of despair. The leaders of it, seemingly convinced, that fortune, as well as public opinion, is against them, lose the little calmness which they ever had, and burst forth in violent declamations against everything and everybody. They are now trying to play the demagogue, but, alas! they are without one of the requisite qualifications. They describe Great Britain as sunk into hopeless ruin, from which there is no possibility of escape but by a re-imposition of a duty on foreign corn. Their meetings are singularly conducted. They attack without mercy, and they listen to no opposition. Reasoning they eschew. They deal only in abuse. It is not surprising, therefore, that they should sometimes provoke passions too violent to be managed. Their plan is to get rid of objections by forcibly ousting the objectors, and the result, as may be expected, is, the excitement of retaliation, personal conflict, the calling in of the police, the siege of the place by a mob, the passing of their resolutions in dumb show, and the speedy retreat of disappointed orators through discord, yells, and sometimes peril to their skin. We are sorry at the annoyance which they bring upon themselves—but the truth is, they make the uneasy bed upon which they lie. Happily, the public voice is against them, or we should have riots without end.

It would be well if those men who are fomenting this agitation, would condescend to listen to the calm and sensible advice of our contemporary, the *Examiner*. For the benefit of our readers we extract the following paragraph:—"It is the inveterate habit of the farmer to identify his condition, real or imaginary, with that of the whole community of which he is a member. It is always with him *pars pro toto*, himself for all. When Swift's spider in his web sees the approach of a broom in the hands of a housemaid, he says, 'I thought heaven and earth were coming together.' And so it is with the farmer when anything deranges the web of his interests—heaven and earth are coming together—the world is at an end when corn goes down to 5s. a bushel. Stands England where it did? is the question when the market gives way a stiver. The end of all this will be, that the country will be content and satisfied with its general prosperity, notwithstanding the drawback of the farmers' distresses; especially as those distresses have had existence as represented to a greater or less degree in every time, state, and arrangement of things. People will begin to look upon the agriculturists as the lean kine, which cannot be made anything of by any sacrifice that can be made for them at the expense of others. The agricultural interest, petted and coddled as it has been, has contracted an opinion that the first duty of the legislature is to provide for its prosperity, and that the community is to serve at any costs for its well-being, not it for the community's advantage. It is high time that this misconception should be corrected. It is most desirable that a great interest like the agricultural should flourish, and it cannot suffer without sympathetic consequences to other interests; but it must take its chance of the ups and downs—the vicissitudes of fortune—like other interests, and look for no special legislative interventions to do for it what is not done for any other interests in seasons of adversity."

In Ireland, the Protectionist movement takes the shape of undisguised landlordism. The great aggregate meeting of peers and gentry, held in Dublin, about which rumour was so busy beforehand, has now come off—and, whether we look to the resolutions passed, to the topics dwelt upon, or to the speeches uttered, we are compelled to draw conclusions unfavourable both to the magnanimity, the good sense, and the patriotism of those who took part in it. The subjects mooted were such as interest the landlord-class exclusively. Tenants and people were alike consigned to oblivion. So, however, it has always been with Irish landlordism. Its last act has been entirely of a piece with its whole previous history. Its undissembled selfishness has, at length, raised a foe at its own doors, which will probably master it. The cry for protection has awakened a louder cry for tenant-right. The farmer is setting up against the proprietor. The cultivator of the soil claims consideration as well as the owner of the soil. On all sides, bankrupt proprietorship is menaced by dangers, and, probably, the next session of Parliament will annul the last hope of those who wish to re-establish a practical monopoly of agricultural produce.

Rumour is engaged in chalking out the mini-

terial programme of policy for the next session. If it may be believed, which we much doubt, the Whigs are about to cast themselves pretty unreservedly upon the sympathies of the people. In addition to a large measure of Parliamentary reform, it is intimated that we may expect a decided change in our financial policy, and a complete revolution in our present colonial system. Deputations to the Ministry are now coming into vogue. One asks a diminution of the duty on tea; another contemplates the removal of those difficulties which prevent the profitable growth of cotton in India. Doubtless Lord John Russell and the Chancellor of the Exchequer will have to stand a siege of deputations before long—for countless are the grievances waiting for redress. For our own part, however, we have no great faith in Whig liberality. We expect a stirring session—we anticipate important results from it—but we are warned by the past, too impressively, not to look with hesitancy and suspicion upon any promise of "comprehensive measures" from a Whig Cabinet. We may be mistaken—in which case we shall only see how "Nature's erring from herself."

A meeting was held last week, at Exeter Hall, of journeymen tailors, and others interested in the trade, to consider the propriety of asking Parliament to put down those oppressive and injurious practices that have recently been brought under public notice—to require masters, for instance, to have their work done under their own inspection. We regard with mingled satisfaction and regret a meeting like this. We are rejoiced at the publicity which is being given to trade usages, alike disgraceful to those who encourage and destructive to those who are subject to them; but we are sorry to perceive that sound principles as to the province of Government and their own best interests, have yet to be adopted by the working classes. The meeting, however, affords much ground for hope, even in this matter. The tone of the speakers towards employers was generally very creditable, and any attempt to excite passion, when only reason should be appealed to, was defeated by the good sense of the meeting. The disproportion of the supply of labour, in this department of industry, to the demand for it,—the necessity for show and puffery on the part of shopkeepers—and the system of middlemen, subtracting from the earnings of the journeyman, without benefiting the public—seem the principal points brought out. We take them to be indicative of evils by no means confined to tailoring, but commensurate with our present commercial system; and as such, we shall probably make them the subject of lengthened comment in our next, our space being for the present exhausted.

Continental news supplies us with one or two suggestive topics—which have no unimportant bearing on ourselves.

The most important of these is the great debate on the Education Bill which has for a whole week engaged the attention of the French Legislative Assembly. In France all parties concur in the expediency of providing a State education for the people—and all parties, as they obtain the upper hand, endeavour to turn the vast machinery thus created to promote their political objects. At one time the schoolmasters are made the means of indoctrinating the minds of the young with the slavish sentiments of Legitimacy—when they are superseded, where necessary, to make way for republican propagandists. At the present time, when the party of "order," or, in other words, the united monarchical and clerical section, are uppermost, the state schoolmaster is required once more to become the exponent of reigning opinion and especially to wage warfare with Socialism. Thus to see the youthful mind of the country handed over first to one and then to a different set of teachers, is a sad spectacle which the most zealous state-educationists on this side of the Channel will scarcely dwell upon with pleasure. No wonder that with such pernicious notions on the duties of the State—when we find all parties in succession attempting to enthrall the human mind, and sedulously trample out the sparks of manly and independent thinking—that France has gained but little by her frequent revolutions, and is now under the domination of as rigorous a despotism as any under which she has groaned. The nation is still in its minority, and becomes the ward of whatever party may, by the issue of events, become uppermost. It is a melancholy sight to find even her most liberal statesmen, such as Victor Hugo, requiring the legislative recognition of those principles which make self-government an impossibility. The scale has now turned in favour of the coalesced monarchist and priest, who have succeeded in passing through its first stages an Education Bill, which will hand over the education of the young to the Catholic clergy, and will doubtless be able to make it the law of the land. How long will it remain in action? Perhaps until another convulsion, which the despotic tendencies of Louis Napoleon seem to be maturing—and then, possibly, Socialism may use the appliances of government to propagate its



own opinions in the minds of the people. All this goes by the name of state education!

In another direction we see the same vicious principle in operation. The King of Prussia—alternately despot and constitutionalist—grants a constitution to his subjects which is approved of by the two branches of the Legislature. Suddenly this crowned Lord Brougham proposes to mutilate the work of his own hands, by introducing new and extensive modifications, to which he requires their unconditional assent. Under Frederick William it would appear that representative institutions are a perfect farce. The Prussian Legislature is degraded into a mere instrument to register the royal whims and contradictions. Whilst such is the case we can scarcely wonder that the great majority of Liberals in that country resolutely hold aloof from so degrading a connexion.

We regret to find that the prospect of a reduction of the military establishment of Belgium is for the present at an end. The committee appointed to examine the proposition have reported against it, and their decision will probably be ratified by the Chambers. Still we have no doubt that the public opinion created by the Peace Congress will eventually triumph, and that at no distant date Belgium, as well as England, will bear practical testimony to the value and success of the missionaries of peace.

#### FREE-TRADE AND WAR LOANS.

Is the public denunciation of loans, made by the capitalists of one country to the government of another, a practical contravention of the principles of free-trade? This question has been pushed into prominence, during the last week, by the comments of the *Times* and other journals of the oligarchy, upon the great meeting held in the London Tavern, on Friday last. The *Times* persists in asserting that Mr. Cobden, in his attempt to obstruct the raising of war loans in the British money-market by foreign powers, is trampling upon the axioms of that economical faith which he has spent the best part of his life in labouring to promulgate. The *Times*, however, speaks and argues as one who does not believe in the soundness of what he advances. It is confident enough in tone, and blustering in manner—now affecting a laugh, anon gravely administering rebuke. But under all it is impossible not to detect a consciousness that it is engaged in palming off upon the world a gross fallacy. It eludes all the strong points of the question, frequently and vividly as they present themselves to the eye of common observation. It whisks about from point to point with all the obvious anxiety of one seeking for a flaw, and determined to make, if it cannot find, one. It exhibits none of that calmness which ever accompanies mastery of one's position. Its smiles are not genial—its laughter is hollow—its indignation feigned and false. It is sore with exposure. It has been caught practising and abetting disreputable tricks. It feels like a detected criminal; and the only chance it perceives of escape from the infamy which it deserves, lies in a bold attempt to throw that infamy upon others. To the last it is a bully—abusing most foully those who have most clearly uncovered its villany.

Our present purpose, however, is to deal, not with the character of the *Times* journal, but with its interpretation of the doctrine of free-trade. Is Mr. Cobden consistent, in the instance under review, with the principles of his own creed, or has he chosen to violate them? This is the question, a brief answer to which we shall attempt to furnish.

What is free-trade? We suppose it may be defined—liberty of action in regard to the exchange of commodities—a liberty involving, of course, abstinence, on the part of law, from any interference not dictated by a regard to the safety of society, and protection from all forcible intervention arising from individual or associated opposition. Beyond this, neither common sense, philosophy, nor religion, would carry the doctrine of commercial freedom. Each man, in his individual capacity, is permitted by law to carry that wherein he trades to the market which best suits him, or to obtain that which he needs from the market which can supply it to most advantage—and, in doing this, he is protected by law from the forcible interference of all other persons. His trading privileges are put precisely upon the level of his personal freedom. He may use the one subject to no other hindrances than will be found to restrict the exercise of the other. As a man, and as a trader, he plies his vocation within the same range of free action—is subject to the same class of restraints—recognises the same order of responsibility—lies open to the same aiding or counter-acting influences—and is bound to submit to the same control, or bear the consequences of his refusal.

The question, then, narrows itself to this:—Does the rightful claim of any man to the full enjoyment of personal liberty, involve his exemption from all

comment, on the part of his neighbours, as to the mode in which he may choose to exercise it? It is perfectly well known, that the interests of society are often largely affected by the manner in which individuals may use the personal freedom secured to them by law. Has it ever been contended, that society must witness all such results without uttering a single expression of opinion? or that the loudest condemnation of acts which are injurious to its welfare, is a violation of that right to dispose of himself as he pleases, within the limits of law, which every Englishman claims as a sacred inheritance? The *Times* knows there is but one answer to such a question, and that the answer is equally applicable in the case of free-trade.

Conscious of its own incompetency to grapple with the question in its primary elements, it represents the denunciation of war loans as tantamount to the practice of "exclusive dealing." The analogy is unfortunate. Exclusive dealing marks out its own circle—usually a narrow one—within which to confine all its trade transactions. The denunciation of war loans simply selects a certain character of business as an exception to the general rule, and says concerning it—"I will have nothing to do with it, and, so far as my influence extends, will persuade others to similar abstinence." The first case may be illustrated by a Liverpool merchant employing no shipowner for the carriage of his goods, but such as might profess a certain political or religious creed. The second may be more fairly paralleled by the following case. Some shipowner undertakes to conduct the conveyance of emigrants on a large scale, and, in doing so, is carrying into effect the purposes of needy and interested parties across the ocean. He puts out lying prospectuses—he employs unsound ships—he makes no adequate provision for emigrants, and he is utterly indifferent as to whether the poor dupes who trust their lives in his hands, are buried in the ocean, or cheated and starved when they reach their destination. A liberal man rises up to denounce this heartless traffic in the lives and comforts of his fellow-creatures. "Oh!" says the *Times*, "you are an advocate for exclusive dealing, are you? You, who have loudly condemned the restriction of commercial transactions by political and religious preferences, are now, when it suits your purpose, the first to find fault with the fair exemplification of your own principle." Now, we say advisedly, that he who can see no distinction between the two cases, must consent to be regarded by the great bulk of society, as either an egregious fool, or a hardened knave.

The real gist of all that has been said by the *Times*, and other journals, upon this subject, amounts to this—that capital has its rights, but has no duties. Are we to believe this? Are we to sit down by the conclusion, that the largest, the most subtle, the promptest, the most irresistible, of all the powers which man can wield over man—the power of money—is exempt from all the laws of responsibility by which other powers are defined and controlled? May society be at liberty to defend itself from blows aimed at its peace and progress by any other weapon, but be deprived of all right to ward off those which may be inflicted at pleasure, by the holders of available cash? That freedom which is claimed for capitalists, is a freedom from all social and moral restraints. That right which is insisted upon so loudly on 'Change, is the right of being base without exciting contempt, of doing dastardly wickedness without provoking indignation, of selling, if need be, the soul to the devil, without hearing a single expression of abhorrence. All other men must be dumb, that our money-changers may be free. All nobler instincts must be stifled, lest the instinct of gain might be thwarted. The community must consent to become a beast, that Mammon may have, without stint, his morning and his evening sacrifice. Happily the age has got above this level of baseness—and the morality of the money-market, like the arguments of the *Times*, is repudiated by the more generous sympathies and sounder hearts of the British public.

#### THE LAND AND LABOUR QUESTION.

##### NO. IV.—THE NATURAL REMEDY OF ARTIFICIAL EVILS.

We have in these three kingdoms about a million and a half of permanently unemployed male adults—and we have, within the same compass, fifteen million acres of good land lying absolutely waste. That is the climax of the startling anomalies which our social condition presents—the broadest representation that can be given of the results worked out by the process we have been observing. At the beginning of the present century, extraneous causes gave an artificial value to land—when those causes ceased to operate, landlord legislation substituted for them others—population went on rapidly increasing—manufacturing energy called mechanical powers and scientific appliances to its aid—the price of food was maintained at an unnatural height, while the wages of manual labour steadily declined—capital,

already wedded to manufactures, and eager to quicken its returns, cared not to spend itself on the cultivation of the soil; while aristocratic proprietors had no leisure to bestow upon the legitimate extension of their estates, but sought to lessen the burden of their mortgages by diminishing the number of labourers and screwing up the rents of tenants. Now that legislation, turned into a new channel, opens to constructive industry a market in which it may exchange its fabrics for the food produced on foreign soil, what find we, but a vast number of those who, unable to offer aught beyond the simplest services which animal strength can render, are displaced from the factory by the steam-engine; and that smaller but yet large body who, educated to the use of abilities which society only when well-to-do can afford to purchase, are lingering in disguised penury or driven down to obvious want—both falling back upon, in one mass of helpless suffering, vice, and crime, the profits and earnings of all other classes, taxing the national income to, at least, five per cent.—and beside them, in their very sight, trodden by them in their vagrancy, acres of virgin soil, clamorous for culture, and promising to multiply fifty-fold the seed committed to its bosom—to furnish healthful homes and plenteous food to all that can guide the plough or even wield the spade; with schools of industry, instruction, and recreation, for children of every age and either sex—to drain the Union, the prison, the hospital, the lodging-house, and the ragged-school, of those who have been swept thither by the negligence or gathered by the benevolence of society—to build up afresh their wasted frames, and soothe their savage or cheer their sunken spirits by the wholesome influences of Nature and industry—to realize, in short, the literal fulfilment, and go far to realize the spiritual promise, of that old prediction, that the waste and solitary places shall be made glad, and the desert to rejoice and blossom as the rose.

This is not romancing. That the untilled lands we speak of do lie there, measured out by accurate surveyors, is certain—and that they are capable of yielding harvests weighty with beauty and wealth as any that crowned the plains or girdled the hills of England this last summer, is scarcely less certain. There are, in Great Britain and Ireland, 15,871,463 acres incapable of cultivation—that is, not worth the trouble; but there are 15,000,000 acres more that need but the subsoil plough or the spade, and a few cart-loads of manure, to make them fertile as the lands of Essex or of Kent; or even more so, since the richest soil is that reclaimed from boggy, luxurious idleness. Here is the measurement:—

In England .. ..	3,454,000
Wales .. ..	530,000
Scotland .. ..	5,960,000
Ireland .. ..	4,900,000
British Islands .. ..	166,000
Total .. ..	15,000,000

To say that these would not repay cultivation, is gratuitous and groundless. Anyhow, one would think, it must be cheaper to set men growing corn, than to keep them idle and buy it for them. And all experience is against the objection. Labourers, working in their little allotments in their leisure hours, manage to pay 20s., 30s., and 50s., an acre as rent: would they not keep themselves and families if the acres were made their own? We don't advocate covering Epping or Hainault Forest with squatters—nor do we feel particular affection for uniform food manufactories. But we believe the creation of a peasant proprietary—some hundred thousand families, on farms of ten acres each—to be as easily practicable as it would be immensely beneficial. The fact is, however valuable capital may be in improving agriculture, it is by no means essential, to any large extent, to the reclamation of land. Industry and perseverance are the prime elements in that work—and those are the only heritage with which poverty can dower her children. "Give a man a rock, and he will make it a fruitful field—let him a garden, and it will become a weedy waste," is as true as it is trite. Put a man upon a patch of ground, with a spade in his hand—bid him turn it up two forks deep—lend him seed for his first sowing, and food till his first crops—promise him the land shall be his when he can repay the advance out of his harvest, and never fear that he will make it answer, though he be fresh from the loom or the workhouse. Independence will grow up in his bosom as the corn he eagerly watches shoots up from the furrow—and integrity, public spirit, neighbourly generosity, not unlikely religious gratitude, will swell within the heart once cramped, embittered, and cold. There will be little fear of his subdividing among his sons to a mischievous extent—common sense will dictate to the young ones the prudence of "swarming off" when the old hive is full; forest after forest may be taken in, as one generation expands into another; and emigration, voluntarily undertaken, from that spirit of enterprise which comparative prosperity at home would rather excite than enfeeble, would postpone the period of positive depletion. The mother country would perpetually



renew the vigour and beauty of her youth, and send forth, year by year, not shadows of men, not weeping women, driven forth by suffering—still less ship-loads of criminals too dangerous to be kept at home—but stalwart youths and young matrons, yeomen and mechanics, tempted by the beckoning vision of colonial success, to win wealth and power in new commonwealths, that emulate the freedom and glory of the old.

Practically, we would say, let government settle with lords of the manor, county lieutenants, copyholders, or whosoever may be the prescriptive possessors of these wastes, the amount of compensation (if any) due to them for the resignation of their interest in them; let the land thus made the property of the public be brought into the market under such circumstances as shall favour its ultimate purchase by the poor; let a simple and safe registry of titles be substituted for the present expensive, insecure method of conveyance; let civic corporations, parish vestries, benevolent institutions, Christian communities, set about buying up the land on behalf of the poor, and making it the scene of agricultural schools and model farms, and so raise up that peasant proprietary we have alluded to; above all, the moment the requisite legislative changes are made, let workmen combine to purchase or lease land, and co-operate in its cultivation—placing on it, at first, those of their fellow-craftsmen who are now a burthen on the general wages-fund, and making the soil thus reclaimed the platform of that greatest experiment of modern industrial science—the practicableness and profitableness of voluntary association in proprietorship and labour. Thus, slowly perhaps, but surely, may a social change be carried on, not only ameliorative but regenerative—wide and powerful enough to redress the balance of agriculture, trade, and manufactures—to change into mutual helpfulness and interested amity the antagonism of classes that now waste each other with competitive fury—to lay deep the foundations of our national greatness, and carry high the pinnacles of our national glory, beyond all that statesmanship has yet attempted or even patriotism dared to hope.

To those who would pursue the subject—and we would hope there are many of our readers who feel it a matter of duty and inclination to do so—we would recommend, first, the perusal, in preference to larger books, of Mr. Sidney Smith's "The Mother Country; or, the Spade, the Wastes, and the Eldest Son." There they will find abundance of facts, and much vigorous, eloquent writing—though disfigured in places, we regret to observe, with laboured and unworthy tricks of rhetoric—on the general subject of the "Condition of England," and particularly on "Home Colonization." Mr. Sharman Crawford—that best friend of a country whose professed friends are its veriest plagues—has also lately written a pamphlet entitled "Depopulation not Necessary," well worthy of attention by those who fear for the success of small farms and peasant holdings. For ourselves, we must here quit—and we do it with regret—the formal discussion of this great question. We feel that we have rather opened it up, than concluded it. The opinions we have uttered are convictions deeply seated in our mind; the best mode of giving effect to them we leave to be decided by larger experience. We felt that we could not turn aside from the examination of a problem which the press—the tribune of the people—must expound and solve, or it will be carried in appeal, some other day, for discussion and decision to those whose minds are now inflamed by a sense of wrong, and to whom universal suffrage—that inevitable culmination of all existing political tendencies—may then give the power of inflicting retribution for the past, as well as exacting security for the future. Because we love peace as well as justice—because we would see political equality the brief and quiet prelude to social fraternity—have we made this humble contribution to the settlement of so great a question; and lay it before all minds whom we can reach, as solemnly as we would deposit an offering upon the altar of God.

#### THE FREEHOLD LAND MOVEMENT.

##### HOW THE WORK IS ACCOMPLISHED.

THE Freehold Land Societies are, in effect, the same thing as building societies; they are savings' banks, and mutual loan societies. The money, as it accumulates, is laid out on behalf of the members in the purchase of estates suitable for subdivision, so as to confer the greatest number of votes at the lowest average cost. If attention was paid simply to the vote, and the value of the land as an investment neglected, one of their great objects would be defeated. This, however, we are glad to find is a point upon which the managers of these societies lay great stress. They see that the great majority of the members are persons of the humbler classes, who deposit their savings with a twofold motive—to acquire a vote, and secure a

small property. Hence it is desirable to give to each man an allotment which, irrespective of the vote, will be fully worth his money. The probability is, that his freehold will be of rising value from the time he gets it—at least, this may be expected in the great majority of instances, and especially in the neighbourhood of our large towns. One thing is certain—that the poor man who is seeking a plot of ground for a house, or a garden allotment, will be enabled to obtain it, as in the case of the Birmingham Society, at one-half, or perhaps one-third, of the price he would have paid had he taken his little capital to market, and bought the land retail.

But then the question occurs, how is the land bought and sold to the members, since the rules do not admit of the directors buying or selling property? Easily enough! The rules, as we have said, are certified under an Act of Parliament passed for the special protection of a class of societies which have sprung into existence within the last ten years, and which, by a strange blunder, are called building societies. The certifying officer has refused to sanction the freehold land societies under that name, and, therefore, to suit the technicalities of the law, they are certified as permanent building societies. In this there is no difficulty—beyond that of calling them by a name that does not represent their objects, intentions, or principles. Practically, the Act of Parliament is quite sufficient to allow of the work being done well and safely; and, therefore, the machinery of a building society is adopted. But the society itself has no power to buy land. Neither has the kindred institution—the building society—the power to employ the funds for the purpose of building.

It may help us to understand this subject more correctly, if we first ascertain what a building society is. Suppose twenty men in a workshop resolve upon laying by a small sum every week for the purpose of buying or building a house. If each acts independently in the matter, and deposits his money in the savings' bank, it will of course be many years before the object is accomplished, and all will attain it at the same time. If they are men of business, however, they will put their savings into one fund, and when it amounts to a sum equal to the purchase of a house, they will advance it to one of their members. As that individual will subsequently pay in subscriptions to the society what he previously paid in rent, thus converting rent into capital, he can afford to pay a premium for the advance, or an interest on the sum so advanced, which goes to the mutual advantage of the members. So the thing goes on, until every member has received his share. During the whole of these proceedings, it will be observed, the society does not employ its funds in building or purchasing—it saves the money, and lends it for the use of the members. This, to all intents and purposes, is a building society according to the interpretation of the law, and entitled to the protection of the Act of Parliament. Mercenary lawyers and greedy speculators have crept into these associations for their own ends; and many members, from ignorance and inexperience, have been betrayed into the most serious errors. Wherever large expectations are encouraged, it is well to examine carefully the data upon which the calculations are based. Now in the case of building societies, every individual member has to seek out his own property, and encounter all the trouble, risk, and expense, of such a process. The land societies, on the contrary, institute inquiries, and make arrangements, on all preliminary matters. They do not purchase the property, but they make provision for such purchase. The board of directors are competent to make inquiries as to property. When eligible property is found, they request some independent party to purchase it, who holds it at his own risk until the allotments are made, and accepted by the members. The money is then advanced by the society on behalf of the members,—the society, of course, retaining the title-deeds, as security, until the sums advanced are paid up.

A question of some moment then arises. Many societies have encouraged their members to believe, that the moment they obtain possession of the allotments they can claim to be put upon the register. There is some difference of opinion on this subject, but we believe that no claim can be established under such circumstances. Although the member may obtain possession of his little freehold, it is mortgaged to the society, and until that mortgage is redeemed he will not be entitled to place his name on the register. Exceptional cases may occur, but we are satisfied that this will be the rule; and, therefore, the freehold land societies will do well not to encourage false hopes or expectations.

One thing is certain,—the claims to be invested with a vote in right of possessing a freehold, will lead to a thorough sifting of the forty-shilling qualification. Whatever may be its capabilities, they will be fully tested. It will do more—it will stimulate inquiry as to the justice or expediency of a property qualification. Whatever be Lord

John Russell's intention, he will find the people much more able to discuss with him the basis of a future Reform Bill than they were on the last occasion. Unless his measure is broad and comprehensive, so as to admit the great bulk of the people—unless it contemplates the absorption of the small pocket boroughs in well-defined electoral districts—he will meet a sturdy spirit of resistance. The Premier will not find it an easy matter to impose upon us another sham. The people have discovered a new element of power in the Freehold Land Movement; and there is no reason why every honest and industrious man, in a few years, should not be a county elector. We will not prejudice the Minister, but we fear that he has too little sympathy with the people to lead any reform that will give them satisfaction, or command their suffrages and support; and we should be sorry to see any body of reformers slacken their labour in consequence of the untrustworthy rumours which are just now flying about. If the Premier proposes a real measure of reform, he will even then require all the aid the people can give him.

#### SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

FORTHCOMING MINISTERIAL CONCESSIONS.—Rumours as to Ministerial activity during the session are multiplied and repeated; but we do not discern anything very new, or anything of greater mark than the rate-paying suffrage. Ministers are going to supersede every sort of agitation—with an imitation of each: the charters, big and little, are to be superseded by a sort of new Whig charter; the Law Amendment Society is to see its work done—or shelved—by official hands, the Keeper of the Great Seal consenting, perhaps, as the only hope of being allowed to keep that great seal; the Society for the Reform of Colonial Government is to be outdone by concessions of local independence to colonies that will purchase it by undertaking to pay their own way; the Financial Reformers are to be baulked by a spontaneous reduction of the army—a dozen or so of regiments clipped at the ends; the scandal of Rajah Brooke is to be smothered under a measure for discontinuing the desperately inconvenient practice of giving lavish head-money for the capture of pirates. Mr. Villiers is to move the address in the Commons—a sign, some say, that the Clarendon influence is in the ascendant among Ministers; while others interpret it to be a sort of rebuff to Mr. Cobden and his new agitations. Ministers "draw the line" at Charles Villiers. Sir James Duke, the late Lord Mayor, whose popularity will not easily be outshone—the creditable and good-natured colleague of Lord John Russell in the representation of the City—is to second the address. Thus, it would seem, that Ministers are decidedly making ready for a popularity hunt. May it meet what success it deserves.—Spectator.

PRICE OF FOREIGN CORN.—REPUTATION OF PROTECTIONIST ASSERTIONS BY THE "ECONOMIST."—The Economist fully and satisfactorily disproves what was so exultingly brought forward in Blackwood's Magazine, and repeated by Lord J. Manners. The assertion was, that for several years, and notably during 1845, whilst the price of wheat was 47s. a quarter, and the duty 20s., foreigners imported 1,000,000 quarters of their wheat, which, consequently, they must have parted with, and gained upon, at the selling price, to them, of 27s. If foreigners could do this in 1845, how can English agriculturists compete with them in 1850? Such is the argument. To this the Economist replies, that although upwards of a million quarters were imported in 1845, there were but 316,000 entered for consumption. Of these, two-thirds were Canadian, paying but 1s. duty, and but one-fourth foreign, paying 17s. average duty; and that, moreover, the price, instead of being 47s., ranged from that price in June to 57s. in December. During the four years stated, the average duty on foreign wheat was 11s. 4d., and its price consequently 60s.:-

Out of 4,817,036 quarters of wheat (says the Economist), on which duty was paid, the rate of 20s. was only levied on 140,000 quarters; while on about one-half of the wheat, and four-fifths of the flour, a duty of 8s. only was levied, when the average price, the duty being paid, was 64s. to 65s., leaving a net price to the importer of 56s. to 57s. the quarter. More than half of the remaining quantities paid duties varying from 9s to 14s., indicating a price to the importer of from 45s. to 53s.

The price of wheat in Prussia during 1845, which was a most abundant year, was 33s. 9d. the quarter. The best wheat, such as alone is exported, was dearer. To this let the cost of transport to the ports, and then the shipping and freight, be added, and it could not be brought to England under from 44s. to 45s. a quarter.

A WIDOW NUNNERY.—There is at present in Bridgend a tenement entirely occupied by widows. The husbandless ladies number seven, some having families and some not. So far as we hear, the house is a sort of widow nunnery; and so far is their antipathy to the masculine gender carried, that if one of themselves were dying the rest would elude and pay the rent of her apartments until they got a widow to succeed the defunct. They are to hold Auld Handsel Monday in a manner becoming their curious way; having engaged a widow cook, widow waiting-maid, widow general superintendent, and widow what not; and all invited guests are widows. —Perth Courier.

\* London: Kendrick, Charlotte-row, Mansion-house; Orr, Amen-corner, Bishopsgate-street.



## THE RUSSIAN LOAN.

## GREAT MEETING IN THE CITY.

A public meeting was held at the London Tavern on Friday, to consider the proposal issued for negotiating a loan for the Russian Government in this country. The announcement in the advertisements summoning the meeting, that Mr. Cobden, and other eminent members of the liberal party who were amongst the most energetic advocates of the peace movement, would take part in the proceedings, together with the interest felt in the City on the subject of the loan itself, drew together an unusually large number of persons. The body of the hall, the gallery, and even the staircase and landing leading to the large hall, were crowded long before the hour named for taking the chair (one o'clock). There were in the body of the meeting a considerable number of persons connected with the Stock Exchange, and also several foreigners, said to be Russian subjects. On the platform we observed R. Cobden, Esq., M.P., Joseph Sturge, Esq., Rev. John Burnet, John Morland, Esq., Rev. J. Turnbull, Edward Miall, Esq., John Cassell, Esq.; Rev. H. Richard, James Mitchell, Esq. (Editor of the *Jewish Chronicle*), Nath. Griffin, Esq., Edward Perry, Esq., Charles Gilpin, Esq., Edmund Fry, Esq., L. A. Chamersonow, Esq., John Jones, Esq., Thomas Briggs, Esq., Rev. Frederick Neller, Joseph Cooper, Esq., Thomas Box, Esq., C. E. Smith, Esq. (Sheffield), William Allen, Esq., Rev. J. H. Godwin, Rev. Edward Mannering, Thomas Morland, Esq., John Robertson, Esq., Rev. Charles Gilbert, Rev. E. Wallbridge, Rev. Thomas Binney, Rev. H. I. Gamble.

The Rev. H. RICHARD, the Secretary to the Peace Congress Committee, proposed that Charles Gilpin, Esq. take the chair, which was seconded by J. MORLAND, Esq., and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN said that the committee having the arrangements for this meeting had thought it desirable that one who had been connected with the late movements in favour of the principles of permanent and universal peace should occupy the chair; and he had accepted their offer to propose him for that honour, in the absence of Mr. G. W. Alexander, now absent on a benevolent mission to the West India Islands. The object of the meeting was to express an opinion upon the *morale* of the loan of £5,500,000 asked by the Emperor of All the Russias [hisses], and accepted by a house of high standing in that neighbourhood [cries of "Hear, hear," and "Shame!"] They (the committee, we presume) presented themselves before that meeting of the citizens of London to protest against raising money under false pretences [great cheering], an act as base in an emperor as in a begging-letter impostor [cheers], and to put it to the consciences of the moneyed men of Christian England, and of the smaller capitalists to whom the great men looked to be the holders of their loans [hear, hear], whether they were willing to aid with their pecuniary resources the evil designs of a despot, whose savage hordes had but just returned from the massacres of Hungary [hear, hear], whose iron heel had done all that an Emperor's heel could do to crush every spark of liberty in unhappy Poland [cheers], who had but just withdrawn his infamous demand for the extradition of Kossuth and his competers from the land of their refuge, and who was very likely to renew that demand when he got possession of this £5,500,000 [hear, hear]. We are here, I say, not quite of the opinion of the writers in the *Times* [hisses, groans, cries of "Burn the *Times*," and a voice from the body of the meeting, which occasioned much laughter, "Bring out Walter, and burn him!"]. Having a better estimate than these writers have of the monied classes of this country, we are here to ask whether those monied classes will in very deed make themselves the aiders and abettors of the Emperor of Russia in his tyranny and his crusade against freedom? [hear.] The eminent house which has negotiated the loan in effect say they will ["shame!"]—and the smaller capitalists, who take any part of that loan, must be prepared to say "Yea" also [cheers, and a cry of "Three groans for them beforehand!"]. We are here to call the attention of those, who might be otherwise inclined to take part in the said loan, to the financial condition of Russia: and should you, which we cannot believe, be satisfied with the *morale* of the question, we then ask you to look at the security which is offered for your money. Time will show whether Baring Brothers, and their predictions, or my hon. friend on my right (Mr. Cobden), and his predictions will be verified in the case of Russia. We are told—but most preposterously told—that meetings of this sort are an interference with personal liberty and the rights and principles of Free-trade. Why, can absurdity further go? [hear, hear.] We do not ask the law to step in to prevent any gentlemen from doing what they please with their capital—and to those who object to our meeting here on the ground that we are interfering with Free-trade, we say, it is you who are interfering with the Englishman's first privilege—the right of free speech [cheers]. We are not prepared to adopt the opinion, that a man is not or cannot be held accountable for the use that may be made of the money which he lends; and the organs of the press who advocate that opinion, did they consider it, would stand appalled at the length to which it might lead them. It is true that a man might, without any moral responsibility, lend his neighbour a shilling, but if, when he lent it, he was morally certain that it was wanted to purchase poison wherewith to destroy human life, neither law nor common sense would acquit the lender of participating in the guilt [hear, hear]. In this case we are told, it is true, that the money is wanted to construct railways, but we do not believe one word about the railways—[hear, hear]—and if the Emperor of Russia comes to this country for a loan, and we are morally certain that it is wanted for the purpose of replenishing his beggared treasury—beggared as it has been by his attempts on Hungarian liberty, we say that those who take part of that loan, be it much or little, are morally responsible for those cruelties, to pay the expense of the infliction of which it is needed [cheers].

A letter from Lord D. Stuart, M.P., was then read, expressing his regret that severe indisposition, confining him to his room, kept him from the meeting.

R. COBDEN, Esq., M.P., on coming forward, was most enthusiastically cheered. He said—I have the honour of proposing to you the first resolution, which I will read. It is as follows:—

"That the Government of Russia having proposed to raise in this country a loan of five millions and a half, professedly for

the purpose of completing a railroad from St. Petersburg to Moscow, but really to replenish the imperial exchequer, exhausted by the expenses of the war in Hungary, this meeting is of opinion that to lend money to the Emperor of Russia for such an object would virtually be to sanction the deeds of violence and blood committed by him in Hungary, and to furnish him with the temptation and the means for carrying on future schemes of aggression and conquest."

I congratulate the Peace Society and the friends of peace in this country that the Emperor of Russia has been obliged—unconsciously been obliged, as we must as a matter of courtesy suppose [cheers, and laughter] to affix his name to a document which is not true, in order to obtain a loan of five and a half millions in this country. (Some confusion here arose, consequent upon the attempt of a large body of persons outside the room to obtain admission, and the almost insupportable pressure of those who were inside. After the lapse of some few moments, quiet being partially restored, Mr. Cobden proceeded.) I say that that document which has been signed by the Emperor of Russia contains an untruth [cheers]. I know it to be untrue [more cheering]. And it is known to everybody in St. Petersburg to be untrue [cheers]. But I accept the untruth as the highest tribute that could possibly be paid to the moral power of the peace party in this country [loud cheering, and further interruption, in consequence of the want of capacity in the large hall to afford standing room to the hundreds who were in vain endeavouring to force an entrance]. During the confusion some person observed that as the room was much too small for the meeting, it had better be adjourned to some other place. This brought up

The CHAIRMAN, who said it was impossible to adjourn to a larger room, as no larger room could be got. As the disturbance appeared to be confined to the neighbourhood of the doors, it would probably be better to close them, for there was no means of accommodating those who were outside [a voice, "Three groans for Baring Brothers," which was given by a number of persons at the lower end of the room]. Order being again obtained,

Mr. COBDEN resumed—Gentlemen, I was saying that the pretence put forth by the Emperor of Russia, that he requires this money to complete the railroad from Moscow to St. Petersburg, is unfounded in truth [hear, hear]. I was at St. Petersburg about two years ago, and at that time the rolling stock of that railway was furnished. They had then one hundred locomotives, and I travelled on a portion of the line by means of one of them [hear, hear]—they had 1,000 waggons and carriages, and I was told all the iron was upon the ground and paid for, but that some part of the embankments remained unfinished; and, looking at the martial tendencies of the Emperor of Russia, I do not think it likely that those embankments will be completed for ten years to come at least [cheers and a laugh]; for, judging from his conduct hitherto, we must expect that he will continue to spend his money as fast as he gets it, like a great overgrown colossal baby [a laugh]—on his soldiers rather than on those substantial improvements which alone can add to the civilization, the power, and the happiness of his country [hear, hear]. But why do I argue this point? Nobody believes that the money is wanted by Russia for the railroads. I take it that everybody assumes to the contrary [hear, hear]. But I will convict the Russian government of falsehood in this respect from their own ukase. They say they want the money within six months. Whoever heard of 5½ millions being required for making a railroad in six months? [loud cheers.] Some of you here, unhappily, no doubt, have had some experience in railway calls [hear, hear, and a laugh]—but did you ever know them come from any one board of directors so thick and fast as they are to come from the Emperor of Russia, £20 two days after allotment, £10 on the 15th of February, £10 on the 15th of March, £10 on the 15th of April, £10 on the 15th of May, and £10 on the 15th of June, and the remainder on the 15th of July next. Why here are railway calls from one railway alone at the rate of nearly one million a month, and that in a country where up to the month of March no work can be done in the way of forming embankments [cheers]—and, consequently, this money is wanted for the purpose of being expended in excavating and embanking in the months of April, May, June, and July [hear, and a laugh]. I really pity the mendicant Czar, who is obliged to come to us with such a story [loud cheers]. Is it not humiliating? [cheers and much laughter.] And then after putting forward this pretence, that the money is wanted for a railroad, after beginning his imperial ukase by saying what was not the truth—I must in courtesy presume that he did not know that it was not the truth [cheers and laughter]—he winds up at last (as though doubting whether or not he would be believed) in the fifth paragraph, by promising that the account of the sums derived from this loan shall be kept as the former loans raised for this same railroad were kept—distinct from all other items of the state revenue and expenditure [hear]. He wants here to open the door if possible even for the most scrupulous Quaker to subscribe to his loan [cheers and a laugh]. He tells you not only that the money is not wanted for war or for paying soldiers, but entirely for the construction of the railroad, and as a proof that it is so, he says he will give separate accounts of the manner in which it is expended. If he does so, all I can say is, that this is what he never did before [laughter]. I have been subjected to the reiterated charge that I am not consistent with my own principles, the principles of free trade, when I come here to denounce this loan, and people have asked—"Why won't you let us lend our money in the dearest market, and borrow it in the cheapest? Why not have free trade in money as well as in everything else?" I have no objection to people investing their money, if they like to do so, but I claim the right, as a free-trader in a free country, to meet my fellow-citizens in public assembly like the present, to try and warn the unwary against being deceived by those agents and money-mongers in the city of London who will endeavour to palm off their bad securities on us if they can. If they can succeed in spite of our warning—and I am not going to coerce or dictate to them—we shall have done our duty in giving this warning in time; and those who do not follow our advice now will, perhaps, by and by wish they had done so. That, however, is their business, not mine [hear, hear]. It is asked of me this morning, by a leading journal, whether I oppose this loan on the ground of its immorality or on the ground of its being unsafe? I say I oppose it on both grounds [cheers]—for, in my opinion, whatever is immoral is unsafe [loud cheers]. But apart altogether from those grounds of its inherent immorality and insecurity, I stand here as a citizen of this country and as a citizen of the world, to denounce the whole character of this transaction as injurious to

the best interests of society [hear, hear]. I will take first the politico-economical view of the question, because it is supposed that on this question I am particularly weak in that direction [cheers, and a laugh]. Now I take my stand on one of the strongest grounds in stating that Adam Smith and other great authorities on political economy are opposed to the very principle of such loans [cheers]. What is this money wanted for? It is to be wasted. It is to go to defray the expenses of maintaining standing armies, or to pay the expenses of the atrocious war in Hungary [loud cheers]. Then what does it amount to? It is so much capital abstracted from England and handed over to another country to be wasted, thereby abstracting from the labouring population of this country the means by which it is employed, and by which it is to live [hear, hear]. I say that every loan advanced to a foreign power to be expended in armaments or for carrying on war with other countries, is as much money wasted and destroyed for all the purposes of reproduction as if it were carried out into the middle of the Atlantic and there sunk into the sea [loud cheers]. And I make no distinction whether the interest be paid or not—for if it be paid by the Emperor of Russia, it is not paid out of the proceeds of the capital lent—it is not paid by the capital itself being invested in reproductive employment—but it is extorted from the labour, the industry, and the wretchedness of his people, to pay for the interest of that capital which has not only been employed in reproductive labour, or even thrown into the ocean, but far worse, in obstructing industry, in devastating fair and fruitful lands, and in suppressing freedom [much cheering]. I say, then, I stand here as a political economist to denounce every transaction such as this as injurious to every class of the community, from the highest to the lowest, for it stops employment, impedes industry, and draws from us the very sources of profitable labour. Therefore, I say, it must injure every one, more or less, from the Government itself down to the humblest mechanic or farm labourer who depends on his weekly wages for his subsistence [cheers]. But I stand here also to denounce this loan as a politician, as a member of society, and as a taxpayer [hear, hear]. For what is the object of this loan? It is to enable the Emperor of Russia to maintain an enormous standing army; and what is the consequence? Why, that every other country in Europe is obliged to keep up an enormous armament also [hear, hear]. What say the statesmen of France? They say, "We are obliged to keep 500,000 armed men because Russia keeps 800,000;" and we are here in England accustomed to cite the hostile position of Russia as a reason why we keep our enormous fleet. I should not be surprised if, in the very next session, when I bring forward a motion asking to reduce our armament, you find, what I have before found, this very example of the Russian fleet cited why we cannot reduce our navy [cheers]. What has been very recently the attitude and position of Russia as regards this country? Have we not had our fleet—a fleet maintained in the Mediterranean at an enormous expense, by you the taxpayers of this country—have we not had it sailing to the Dardanelles? and have we not had constant talk of a collision between Russia and this country on the subject of Turkey? [hear, hear.] Why, it is the acknowledged and traditional policy of this country—I do not say a word as to the wisdom of that policy—that we are to defend Turkey against all corners, and to maintain at all hazards the integrity of that empire against the aggressions of foreign powers. When we speak of foreign powers, we mean only Russia; and it is the common talk with every one who knows anything of continental affairs, that in the spring Russia means to attack Turkey in her Danubian provinces, in which case the taxpayers of this country may be called upon to equip fleets, which Russia will combat with the means borrowed from yourselves [loud cheers]. We read in the history of Holland that on one occasion when a Dutch town was besieged, its merchants sold sulphur to the enemy with which to make gunpowder to fire on themselves. When we read this we look on the Dutch as a mercenary people who had no idea of patriotism or national dignity; yet what shall we say of England, if we have to record that in the year 1850 there were found men in London ready to endorse the desperate wickedness of Russia by lending her money to continue the career of violence she has hitherto maintained? [loud cheers.] I oppose this loan then on grounds totally apart from the abstract principles of morality or considerations as to the nature of the security offered. I, as a politician, a citizen, and a taxpayer, have, in common with you all, a right to protest against transactions of this kind, whenever they come, or by whomsoever contracted. But I denounce also the morality of this loan. We have latterly had a strange doctrine, half hinted, half expressed, but not very confidently broached, that you must not question what a man does with his money [hear, hear]. That you must only inquire how much per cent. is to be obtained, and that if the interest be five instead of four per cent., that is quite sufficient to sanctify the transaction [loud cries of "Hear!"]. That is the doctrine I hear put forth in the name of my fellow-citizens. If it be really their doctrine I can only say that the Emperor of Russia has given them credit for a much higher standard of morality than they possess [hear, hear]. He was afraid to avow his real objects. He was obliged by his council to tell a fib, by asking the citizens of London to lend him money for railway purposes, instead of war. He did not know his men, he took too high an estimate of their morality, for they now propose unblushingly to lend him money, simply because he proposes to give them five per cent. interest instead of four [cheers]. Now, what is this money wanted for? Simply and solely to make up the arrears caused by the exhaustion of the Hungarian war [hear, hear]. I am not in the habit of boasting at public meetings of what I may have done on former occasions, but if I were a boaster I should exult that the assertions I made on this spot in June last, and which have been subjected to so much sarcasm from foes and friends—I should, I say, feel some exultation that this poverty-stricken Czar has been obliged to come forward and verify every word I then said [loud cheers]. What has become of the two millions we were told the Emperor had subscribed to the Austrian loan? [hear, hear.] What has become of the £500,000 he was going to advance to the Pope, or the half million he was going to bestow in his generosity on the Grand Duke of Tuscany? [cheers and laughter.] Oh, he ought to pay his scribes well in Western Europe who have told so many lies for him [cheers, groans, great excitement, and cries of "The *Times*!"]. He ought to pay them well, seeing that they have been subjected to this full refutation of all they had said in his behalf at the hands of the Czar himself [cheers and laughter]. If I had been employed to write up the wealth, power,



and riches of a man who, six months after was obliged to come before the citizens of London and sign his name to such a humiliating document as this imperial ukase, I should expect to be exceedingly well paid for the loss of character I had sustained [a laugh]. Well, I stand here to repeat the very words I uttered twice on this platform at times when few would believe me. I say that the Russian Government, in matters of finance, has been for years—successfully, until now the bubble has burst—the most gigantic impostor in Europe [tremendous cheering]. I use the words, as I do every word I say at a public meeting, advisedly. I have used them before; and, after due investigation, I come here to repeat them [hear, hear]. I say, that this money is wanted for the purpose of sustaining the ambition, the sanguinary brutality of a despot, who has all the tastes of Peter the Great, and all the lust of conquest of Louis XIV., without the genius of the one or the wealth of the other; and who would apply their principles to a great part of Europe, forgetting that this is the nineteenth instead of the seventeenth century; while utterly wanting not merely the ability which would enable him to play such a part in history, but even the pecuniary means of enjoying the tastes he possesses [hear, and cheers]. What are the real objects of the loan? To make up deficiencies—to pay debts incurred by the Emperor of Russia while inflicting the most wanton injuries on Hungary [hear]. I said before, that the expenses of that war were not paid; and now I will tell you how it was carried on. The army was moved from the interior, not at the expense of the military chest; for, as I told you, that chest was empty, and did not afford means for transporting the Russian guards from St. Petersburg to the confines of Hungary. The way the Emperor managed it was this,—He sent out orders to all the landowners and farmers on the line of march, commanding them to deposit at certain points indicated supplies of provisions and forage for the army. When the troops arrived, these provisions were taken possession of by the commissariat, and receipts were given, which receipts were to be received as cash in payment of taxes. So that when the taxes became due, and these receipts were handed in instead of money, it was found that the resources of the country had been all anticipated. The government, then, has not the necessary means of carrying on its affairs. It is said, that three millions sterling of these treasury notes have been issued, accompanied by an ukase avowing that they had been issued on account of the expenses of the Hungarian war [hear]. You will thus see that these supplies have been just so much provisions borrowed from the agriculturists of the country through which the army passed, and that the Government hopes to raise the money to pay for them by coming to England for a loan. And I say that this money, now about to be raised by way of loan, is just as much issued for cutting the throats of unoffending men in Hungary, devastating their villages, and outraging their women, as if it had been lent before a single soldier had begun his march [loud cheers]. I say in this case, as I said in the case of Austria, that it makes no difference whether the money be lent a little before or a little after. The operations were based on the expectation of a loan from England, temporary expedients were used pending the realization of that loan, and therefore the English capitalists who advance their money appear as the abettors of the crimes and the cruelty of these continental despots [cheers]. Such are the purposes, and not railways, for which this money is wanted; and are we to be told that because the loan will pay 5 per cent. we are not to inquire into the purposes for which it is raised? I can only say, that if a man has a right to make the most he can of his money, without any inquiry as to the means, there was a very worthy man used harshly the other day at the Old Bailey, being sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment and hard labour for only being the landlord of some infamous houses out of which he realized a profit of 20 per cent. [laughter.] It is quite certain that that man may console himself in his confinement by thinking that his conduct was quite consistent with the new code of morality lately introduced into the city [hear, hear, and cheers]. But I do not reckon much on moral restraints. I think more may be done by appealing to motives of self-interest, and showing the risk there is in subscribing to these loans. Who would go and lend money to an irresponsible despot, who never publishes any account of his income or expenditure? [hear, hear.] I was looking through the *Almanach de Gotha*, thinking I might find in it some traces of the income and expenditure of Russia. There was something more or less on that subject respecting every other state, but when I came to Russia I found these expressions: "We are sorry to be altogether without information as to the revenue or expenditure of Russia." Now, that is the investment which is considered safe in the City of London, simply because the borrower is 1,000 miles off. How would a man, whose affairs were in such a state, but living in England, be received if he attempted to borrow money? How would you like it in the case of railways? At present, although you have six monthly meetings, auditors, secretaries, and the most complete surveillance, yet, by a strange inconsistency, one of the parties most diligent in abetting the Emperor of Russia is as anxiously abetting a Government audit to look after the affairs of the railways [hear, hear]. That is my first objection. We do not know what security we are to have for this money, which we know is wasted in unproductive employment. The next objection I make to this investment is, that you are lending money to a sovereign who founds his throne on the most combustible elements in all Europe [hear, hear]. It is not irrelevant to the subject, if a sovereign comes here publicly to solicit money from the citizens of London, to say a word as to the prospects of his empire. The Emperor of Russia is the only sovereign in the world who rules over white slaves—twenty millions of serfs, who are bought and sold with the land [hear, hear]. Do you think that a safe state of society in the present age? The ideas and principles of freedom have been marching from west to east for centuries, and slavery and serfdom have disappeared before the spirit of the age, until it hovered on the confines of Russia. Do you think it will long stop there in these days of the steam-boat, the rail, and the telegraph? On the contrary, you must expect that the serfs of Russia, being men, will prefer freedom to slavery; and that, being ten to one of their masters, they will do in Russia as they have done in every other country in Europe, sooner or later assert their freedom [loud cheers]. What security do you think you will have when the conflagration takes place in Russia, as it most probably will before many years have passed away?—because there ever has been a case in which the emancipation of serfs

on a large scale was effected except through the agency of a revolution. What do you expect for your loan in the event of a revolution in Russia? What will the people of Russia say of the men who lent their money to enable the Emperor to maintain his tyranny over his serfs? I say, they will repudiate the debt [hear, hear, and cheers]. And, mind you, this custom of lending money by more refined states to barbarous governments is a great means of perpetuating their tyranny. It gives them the power of governing in a way which they could not attempt if depending on their own people for the supplies. Go back to your own history—to the time of the Plantagenets, when England obtained her liberties step by step. How? Through the necessities and embarrassments of her kings. One got a loan for one franchise, another redeemed his jewels with another. That was the way in which the people of this country wrung liberty from their sovereigns, time after time, through their necessities; but if our ancient kings could have gone to the more solvent states of Italy, or the merchants of Venice who stood towards England then pretty much as England stands towards Russia now, and could have borrowed five millions independent of their people, when, think you, would the liberties of the people of England have been secured? [loud cheers.] Where would have been the liberties of England under such circumstances? And do you not think these things will pervade the minds of the masses in the east of Europe? Will they not ask you by what right you lend your money to an irresponsible despot, to enable him to perpetuate their slavery? What answer can you give them? [hear, hear.] Why, we got 5 per cent. for our money [great cheering]. But there is another difficulty which I wish those who lend money to the Russian Government to bear in mind. We may not be strong enough in this room, although we represent pretty much public opinion out of it, we may not be strong enough by this expression of opinion to prevent people lending their money to Russia, but let them well understand that we, the taxpayers of England, who are no parties to the loan, will be no parties to the collection of their debts [hear, hear]. Hitherto, there has been a sort of vague notion that if governments fail in paying their debts to the English creditors, the powers of our Government may be brought to bear to enforce payment. There has been some correspondence between parties so interested and Lord Palmerston, and the noble lord, although declining to interfere, yet reserved to himself the power of interfering if he thought proper [hear, hear]. Now, I tell those who lend their money to the Russian Government, with an idea that they can make our Government the collector of their debts, that we have sufficient power to prevent them making our Foreign Minister a bumbailiff [great cheering and laughter]. I warn those who lend their money to these bankrupt governments, whether in Europe or elsewhere, that we have the power—we, the taxpayers of this country—to prevent our government sending, at the instance of these loanmongers, ships of war, or even diplomats, to demand their money [hear, hear]. On the contrary, I believe from my heart that if the time should come—and most assuredly many in this room will live to see it, when not one farthing of this Russian loan will be paid—I believe that the universal opinion of this country will exert in the loss of the money, not from ill-will to the unfortunate people who hold the bonds, but from a belief that it is a righteous retribution, and that it will operate as a warning to prevent similar transactions in future [cheers]. Are not these important points for consideration? Will any one deny that we have the power of preventing the government putting the taxpayers to expense in collecting these loans? Will it not make an important change in the prospects of these loanmongers when it is known to the world that the taxpayers of England separate themselves altogether from the speculators in such matters? [hear, hear.] There is another uncertainty which I wish to point out to the holders of these loans. Nobody can deny that there is a change of opinion on the whole subject of these foreign loans—nobody can deny that we have put their promoters on the defensive, and that on the grounds of political economy, expediency, and justice, they are gradually losing ground in public opinion. That is the work of six months. We have only begun our work [hear, hear]. But is it not very clear that as this opinion goes on gathering strength, and as the raising of loans becomes more difficult in this country, it will diminish the chances of the payment of the interest of loans already effected? Let it be once known that there will be no more loans, and we shall soon have repudiation all over the world [loud cheers]. Since the peace of 1815 the governments of Europe have borrowed more money than they have paid interest to their creditors. That is to say, the kind and agreeable British public have been lending money out of one pocket and receiving it back in interest in the other [cheers, and laughter]. But let them once see that there is no more chance of getting your cash, and you will see what a very slight chance remains of your dividends [hear]. But I do not come here with the idea of warning any of those capitalists who take up this loan as agents, or the speculators, who write for it. We all understand how that is done now. A certain house engages—I'll let you behold the scenes a little [laughter]. A certain house undertakes to be the contractor. As soon as the contractor has settled his terms—and they do not always tell you the whole of the terms [hear, hear]—he sends out circulars to his friends; that is, those speculators whose names he has in his books, and who are accustomed to put down their names for a certain amount of these loans. These brokers, bankers, and speculators, are all invited to put down their names as subscribers to the loan. They send in their names for £50,000, £30,000, or £20,000. And why? Because they expect to be able to redistribute these sums to their customers, their clients, and their acquaintances, at a profit—not with the view of holding the stock themselves. I venture to say that not 5 per cent. of the loan which will be subscribed for up to Monday next will be taken by parties who really intend to hold it as a permanent investment [hear, hear]. I came down this morning from the west end of the town in an omnibus, sitting opposite to a gentleman. As we were riding along he looked out of the window and saw a placard with the words, "Great Meeting on the Russian Loan." He said to me, "Mr. Cobden is going to have a meeting, I believe" [great laughter]. "Yes," I said, "I believe he is" [renewed laughter]. "It's very odd," he observed, "that he should presume to dictate to capitalists as to how they should lay out their money." "Well," I said, "if he attempts to dictate, it is rather hard [laughter]. But I suppose he allows you to do as you like" [hear, hear, and laughter]. "But," said he, "he holds public meetings to denounce this loan; yet I should not wonder if he would be very glad himself to have £50,000 of

it" [laughter]. I said, "Have you taken any yourself?" He replied, "I have—£50,000, and I intend to pay it all up." I then said to him, "Would you like to leave that property to your children?" "No," he said, "I don't intend to keep it more than two years at the outside, and I hope to get a couple per cent. profit upon it." Now it is with that view that that gentleman is going to pay up all his calls—that is, if he thinks of doing so. That is not the ordinary case; they generally pay up one call and then sell the stock at any profit which they can get upon it; and the loss of holding these securities—I said it before, and I repeat it now—the loss falls upon individuals who were totally unconnected with the taking of the loan—tradesmen retired from business, widows and orphans, trustees and others who invest money in what they regard as a permanent security, in order to obtain the interest upon it [hear, hear]. Well, now, I declare most solemnly, after looking into this subject of Russia as I have done for the last 18 years, that I would not give five and twenty pounds per cent. for the Russian Five per Cent. Stock, which is being dealt in to-day by the bulls and bears at 107—I would not take £100 worth of it at that price for a permanent investment, and with the view of leaving it as a part of the dependence of my children [hear, hear, and cheers]. We do not profess to come here to advise those brokers and capitalists who originally take these loans; we know that they always make money, even when other people lose [hear, hear]; I ask you to go back to the loans which have been contracted—for instance, by the house of Messrs. Baring and Co. I ask you to inquire for yourselves how some of the loans which have been taken by that house have turned out in relation to the interests of those who have ultimately become the depositaries of the bonds. The contractors did not perhaps lose by them; but I get letters daily from persons who have had Spanish bonds, Guatemala bonds, Portuguese bonds, and the rest, describing the sorrows and sufferings which they have experienced as the result of having been entrapped into purchasing such bonds [hear, hear]. I say, then, that in coming here to denounce this transaction, we do so in the interest of the unwary; we do so to guard against these transactions men who have not had the same opportunity as some of us have had of investigating this matter [hear and cheers]. And if we can by this means place an obstacle in the way of these warlike and despotic sovereigns when they are coming to raise money from the civilized industry of this country, in order that it may be expended in barbarous waste in Russia and other countries, I say that we shall have done society good service [cheers]. I ask only for just so much confidence in what I say as I am entitled to in consequence of what I asserted before with regard to the state of the Russian finances [hear, hear]. Take nothing for granted in reference to Russia. Systematic fraud and deception, and lying and misrepresentation, are the policy of the government of that country. A great part of the very money which is now about to be loaned in this country will, I have no doubt, be spent in espionage in Constantinople [hear, hear]—in bribing employés and functionaries there, and in bribing a portion of the press in Germany and in France. [Cheers, and loud cries of "The Times," followed by hissing.] We cannot believe that any of the press of England would be bribed. [Laughter, and renewed cries of "The Times," amidst which were heard the words, "Morning Post."] To be sure, some of our newspapers have been doing the work of despotism rather heartily [hear, hear, and cheers]. And now they seem disposed to play the part of vampires or ghouls [loud cheers]. They are worse than vampires and ghouls [renewed cheers]. How shall we describe those indescribable monsters who, when their foes have fallen, when they are gone into exile, when they are separated from their wives and children, when they are starving in the streets, brought down to the begging of their bread in the midst of winter—how, I ask, shall we describe the wretches who are thus base enough to traduce the character of these men? [tremendous cheering.] I spoke of ghouls and vampires. They prey upon the corpse of the material body: we have had no monster, as yet, which lived by destroying the character of a fallen foe. [Great sensation, and cheering which lasted for upwards of a minute.] Now, gentlemen, this money will be spent, I say, in bribing the continental press—in paying for an insurrection in Paris—no matter whether it be a red republican or a legitimist insurrection, so that it causes confusion and violence [hear, hear]—aye, in paying somebody to create confusion in this room, if they durst [hear, and cheers]. Talk of red republicanism being anarchical! there is nothing in the world so anarchical as the despotism of St. Petersburg. Let it not be concluded, from what I say of the Russian Government, that we have here fallen into the great delusion which prevails in this country on the subject of the character of the Russian people. I have had before to correct some misapprehension that exists with regard to the finances, and resources of Russia. There is nothing in reference to which there is so almost universal a misapprehension as exists with regard to the character of the great mass of the Russian people. In the first place, we have them represented to us as a collection of barbarous and discontented hordes, who are anxious to quit their country, and to pour, like an avalanche, on Western Europe [hear, hear]. There is no greater delusion in the world than the supposition that the population of Russia have any desire to leave their native land [hear, hear]. There is not a people in the world who are prouder of their country than are the Russians of theirs [hear, hear]. There is not a people in the world who are less disposed to cross their frontiers to commit an act of depredation or spoliation, much less would they leave their country to become permanent settlers in another land. I speak now of the national character [hear, hear]. Nor are the Russians a warlike people. There is no greater delusion than the supposition that we have to deal with the Russians as a warlike people. Why, the army is so unpopular that when the Russian peasant is torn from his village by the conscription, there is a procession in the village, of which the priest is the leader, which resembles a funeral ceremony [hear, hear]. When I was at St. Petersburg an English merchant described to me a striking scene, in order to illustrate the repugnance of the Russian people to enter the army. He said that he entered a street in St. Petersburg where a surgeon was examining the conscripts, in order to ascertain whether or not they were fit for the service. Some conscripts had entered a house. They were there denuded and examined, in order that it might be seen whether they were fit to be admitted into the army. One of the men was declared to be unfit for the service; and so great was his excitement, that in the phrenzy of his delirium and joy, he actually rushed from the house into the street in the state of nudity in which he had been examined [great laughter]. Well, now, I say the charac-



ter of the Russian people is a gentle character. They have a great regard for human life. They are, indeed, as slaves, addicted to slavish vices; they lie, they pilfer, and they are too apt to get drunk, or at least to indulge in the use of intoxicating liquors. But great crimes—the crimes of murder and violence—are rare in Russia; and I wish it to be distinctly understood that in dealing with the Emperor Nicholas we will not allow it to be said that we stand here to menace or affront a population of sixty millions of people. But what will be the grievance of this people as against you? It is you who enable the Government to maintain its enormous army (hear, hear). It is you who enable the Emperor to keep up a navy for which he drags twenty or thirty thousand of his vassals from their villages, placing them for six months in the year in barracks in order that they may, for three summer months, sail on board his ships in the Baltic and the Black Sea, to the great amusement of British and American sailors (laughter). The Russians have even a greater horror of the sea service than of the land service. They are dragged from their villages to be put into ships of war and imprisoned in barracks at Cronstadt, and all because you lend the Emperor of Russia money to enable him to do this (hear, hear, and cheers). Once withdrawn these loans, and from that moment the whole policy of the Emperor of Russia, as well as of the Emperor of Austria, would be changed (hear, hear). Russia would no longer be able to menace Turkey—(cheers)—Russia would no longer be able to send its army into Hungary—(hear, hear)—Russia would no longer be able to hire these spies and journals in Western Europe; and the Emperor, not having the means of coercion placed in his hands by foreign aid, would be obliged to conciliate his people, in order to govern them securely (loud cheers). I would, in conclusion, exhort those who may read what I am saying, to consider well before they invest one farthing of their money in a security based upon the life of an individual like this, one who belongs not to a long-lived family—(hear, hear)—and whose son may be utterly unfitted to cope with the difficulties which await him—(hear, hear)—when the present Czar dies. In thus lending your money, you place it upon a volcano. You may rise any morning and find that that vast empire has been torn asunder, or that a scene of violence and desolation is spreading throughout its serf population. Come it will—it may come on any day (hear, hear). This boasted Emperor of Russia, of whose energy and talents we hear so much, is doing the most likely thing which a man could do to precipitate and render inevitable such a convulsion as I speak of (hear, hear). Instead of conciliating the nobles, he is holding them with the tight hand of despotism—(hear, hear)—he is pretending to give emancipation to the serfs only to disappoint their hopes; and, instead of employing the energies and resources of the empire in preparing for the greatest evil which could hang over any country, namely, that which arises from the possession of twenty millions of serfs, he is increasing his expenditure, embarrassing his finances, enlarging his army and navy, trying to keep the whole of Europe in a state of perturbation, and making enemies to himself of every civilized people on the face of the earth (loud cheers). I ask all who may read what I say not to be daunted by what they are told is said in the City, or by the statement that everybody is laughing at us; that everybody is laughing at Mr. Cobden's letter (laughter). They said every body was laughing at my letter about the Austrian loan (hear, hear). We were told then, in reference to the Austrian loan, as we are told now with regard to the Russian, that it was all taken before we met. Well, now, I was calculating this morning, before I came here, what is the present state of the account of those who took the Austrian loan. I am very happy to say that that loan has remained principally in the hands of the first subscribers; that it is the great bankers, the great brokers, the great speculators who had been really caught in this case (cheers and laughter); and for that very reason, if for no other, you will never hear of another Austrian loan (laughter, and hear, hear). Now, what is the present state of the account of those speculators? I find, by a very nice calculation which I made this morning, that at the present rate on the exchange, they have had a loss on that loan, up to this day, of £145,000 (hear, hear). So I think the laugh is on the other side of the face (laughter)—and this is only the beginning of the laugh (renewed laughter). We ask, therefore, everybody who has a conscience which is proof against one per cent. (laughter)—on the ground of morality, on the ground of political economy, on political grounds, and on the ground of personal safety and security, we ask every one to ponder when he reads what has been said to-day—we ask all to do their utmost to discredit the most nefarious attempt on their credulity and their pockets. The hon. gentleman sat down amidst rapturous applause.

A person from the body of the room here exclaimed, addressing Mr. Cobden, "Send the Emperor of Russia a *Reformer's Almanack*, and I will pay the postage" (laughter).

Mr. J. B. SMITH, M.P., cordially seconded the resolution, being firmly of the opinion that "he who supports oppression shares the crime" (hear).

Mr. E. MIAL, on rising to support the resolution, said, that after the extraordinary speech to which they had just listened, so convincing because so full of facts (cheers), he almost despaired of being able to gain attention to that aspect of the subject which was more especially moral. He would not throw any unnecessary imputation upon those who negotiated these loans, and who regarded themselves as traders in money. Those parties had so long admitted the truth of the axiom that money, like water, must find its level, that they had got rid of all sense of personal responsibility in money transactions, and regarded all moral considerations as totally inapplicable to pecuniary affairs (hear). Our own dramatist had told us that the eye saw not itself but by reflection from some other thing; and experience showed that others who had been confined to their beds for a short time by illness, were incapacitated from judging what had been the progress of an insidious disease till they saw their own ghastly countenance in the glass (hear, hear). He believed that under cover of the maxims which had passed current on "Change—maxims which were devoid of the smallest atom of morality—men had performed the most nefarious deeds, without being in the slightest degree sensible either of the falseness of their principles or

of the pernicious consequences resulting to the world from their application. Let them consider under a less familiar aspect than that afforded by the ordinary routine of business, the morality of lending money for the destruction of mankind, body and soul. Happily we know very little personally in this country of the horrors of war, but we had very recently painful experience of the horrors of the cholera, and of the sum of insecurity and the terror which was felt during the prevalence of the disease. Now, supposing it were ascertained that cholera sprang from a certain known description of miasma, and that by means of science the concentrated essence of that miasma could be procured, and bought and sold, would they not denounce as criminal the man who should, through its instrumentality, spread the dreaded cholera among the population? And yet what difference was there in the conduct of those who gave to the despot the means of spreading desolation and death among the human family? (hear, hear.) Would any man on 'Change be justified, for the sake of an additional 2 per cent., in buying that concentrated cholera, and putting it in certain localities simply to subvert the purposes of the Russian despot? Yet in effect this was what they were now asked to do when they were called upon to subscribe to this loan—for what mattered it whether the destruction was produced by disease, or by the machinery of war? They were asked by this loan to assist in keeping up the machinery of war in Russia, in order that the ambition of the Czar might be gratified. Now, what was the policy of Russia? Her object was to perpetuate the supremacy of the will of one man over all the inhabitants of the country which he presided over, and the destruction of all the faculties of the mind and body, so far as was necessary to convert man from a thinking and reasoning animal into a mere machine, to be used for the purpose of carrying out the will of the fiercest of despots (hear, hear). Supposing it were argued that the Russian people were unfit for any other than a despotic government, still we could not be justified in assisting them to extend the despotic principle to those countries where the people had shown themselves capable of representative government (hear). When they saw Hungary trodden down, and Kosuth an exile from his native country, to subvert the purposes of a despot, would they be acting in accordance with the dictates of their consciences, with their feelings and natural affections, if they assisted in the payment of the expenditure by which these evils had been perpetrated? (cheers.) It had been said that in this affair we were attempting to interfere in matters that did not concern us. But did not all transactions concern us which involved the peace, security, and morality of the whole neighbourhood? So it was with nations, and in such cases we stood, as it were, in the position of bail for the well ordering of society, and were bound to speak when necessary. Again, were not the very journals which were supporting this loan themselves furnishing exceptions to the rule they would lay down? Did they not day by day comment on all those transactions by which the peace and security of states might possibly be affected? The *Times*, which denounced what it termed the tyranny of this interference with the rights of the capitalist, but a short time ago was guilty of a similar interference itself, when it denounced the railroad mania (hear, hear). It was, however, necessary that foreigners should understand that there were other organs of public feeling in this country besides the *Times* (loud cheers)—and that if we (continued the speaker) cannot introduce morality into that thing without conscience or principle (loud cheering)—and which is ever ready to bespatter the despot with the filth of its praise, and to traduce and malign the noble-minded and generous patriot (renewed cheers)—the people of England claimed the right to speak their sentiments in public meeting on matters such as this, and their voice would not be without its effect (hear, hear). Had they not heard of late from the leading journal of Europe, that property had its duties as well as its rights? But was that axiom or that maxim to be considered as applicable only to landed property? Was it only to be applied when Ireland was concerned? (hear, hear). Those who dealt with ready cash possessed enormous power in influencing the moral and social destinies of those countries with which they came in contact; and if the holders of any description of property should be kept under the eye of criticism, surely it was these (hear). Already they had enabled tyrants to work their will against the people, and he claimed the right to warn them of what they were doing, in order that tyrants might not be enabled to use them for their own purposes for the future (hear, hear). For these reasons he cordially supported the present movement. There was a day coming when all transactions, public or private, would be held subject to moral considerations. For myself (continued Mr. Mial), I have no notion of men, purse-proud though they be, and able to buy up most of the inhabitants of the country, walking up and down the city and telling us that they must be free from our comments on any transactions they may choose to enter into affecting the welfare of their fellow-men (hear). So long as I live I will always stand by the wronged against the wronger. I will always, as far as I am able, protect the weak against the powerful, and the poor against the injurious encroachments of the rich. I hold that we are justified, nay, more, that we are bound, to look closely at the actions of those men, and if we find that they are introducing evil principles into the world, or supporting them by the application of their wealth, then I say it is our duty to drag them to the bar of public opinion, and expose the villainy of their conduct (cheers); and to appeal to the common sense, the morality, the

justice, and the religion of all our countrymen, in repudiation of that class of men who have no respect for moral considerations (cheers).

The resolution was then put and carried.

Mr. J. STURGE moved:—

That, in the opinion of this meeting, loans for war purposes and for the maintenance of standing armaments are unsound in principle, and injurious to the interests of nations.

Mr. Sturge observed, that as one who, while he entirely sympathized with the object of the Hungarians, carried his views on the subject of peace so far that he could not approve exactly of the mode they adopted to attain that object, and holding the belief that the time would come when it would be seen that it was only by moral means that revolutions permanently prosperous could be achieved, yet, looking at the atrocious conduct of Russia and of Austria, he would wish to state, as a caution to those who might get into this loan without much reflection, that he conscientiously believed that the thrones of Russia and of Austria were not worth seven years' purchase (cheers). The object of this meeting involved a great principle. He had long lamented that there was such a facility in raising loans and leaving posterity to repay them, especially when they were loans to carry on bloodthirsty wars (hear, hear). He would say, that the shape of the announcement of this loan was a proof of the triumph obtaining by the principles of peace and of virtue (hear, hear). There was to be, on the 30th inst., a meeting on the atrocious affair off Borneo, and he trusted the friends of peace would again attend (hear, hear).

The Rev. J. BURNET seconded the motion. He had to ask the meeting for a loan to the Emperor of Russia (a laugh), not of their money, but of their watchful vigilance (hear). Let them keep their eyes upon him (a laugh); it would do him, and Europe too, more good than lending him money (a laugh). An attempt had been made to justify this loan, because some who were opposed to it were favourable to trading with Brazil for sugar. But, supposing this to be the case, the fact of a man supporting one bad thing would not make it right that there should be two bad things. Whether Mr. Cobden was consistent or not, the question of the loan would remain exactly the same as now (hear, hear). It was attempted to damage the case of those who were opposed to the loan by contending, that their views were opposed to Mr. Cobden's free-trade policy; but he would observe, that he made a distinction between trading and lending money for a given purpose. Supposing a man were to come to him and borrow money to purchase a loaded pistol, with which he well knew it was his intention to commit murder, he would surely be guilty of a great crime. But the case of the gunsmith who sold the pistol, not knowing the purpose to which it was to be applied, would be very different. He would be guiltless in the matter. The rev. gentleman then spoke of the importance of the peace movement, and of the unprincipled character of the policy pursued by the Emperor Nicholas. The very fact of a loan being asked for showed the utter want of resources to which his evil policy had reduced him. No person present would lend a farthing to a merchant who was constantly advertising for loans; and he did not see why a different course should be followed in the case of nations or governments (hear, hear). The numerous meetings they were able to command on such questions as the present showed the hold which the principles they advocated had taken upon the minds of the people, and he hoped that they would always be ready to meet whenever called for it, and not be kept back by the taunt that Cobden was a dictator (hear).

The Rev. H. RICHARD, secretary to the society, supported the resolution. He would ask the Messrs. Baring whether, if a man had employed another as an assassin, and then came to them to procure for him the means of paying his bribe, they would shake his blood-stained hand, or would not they rather stand aghast at his audacious intrusion? And yet the case of the Russian loan was nearly parallel. The Emperor hired out his bands to Austria, and now he came with a hand reeking with the blood of slaughter in Hungary, and his face flushed with unsated vengeance, and were they, as Englishmen, prepared to give him a welcome? (cheers.) The resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

Mr. N. GRIFFIN moved the thanks of the meeting to the Chairman, and the motion was seconded by Mr. COOPER.

Previous to the resolution being put,

A PERSON in the body of the meeting remarked that a great many persons present had called out, "Burn the *Times*." Now he, as a practical man, would suggest that a much more practical plan would be to withdraw the public patronage from that journal (hear, hear). Let every working man who frequented coffee-houses call for other papers, and the effect would not be long in showing itself (hear, hear).

Mr. MITCHELL (described as editor of the *Jewish Chronicle*) expressed his great satisfaction that a Jewish capitalist had not become the agent for the loan. This he believed to be in consequence of the meeting which took place on the subject of the Austrian loan, the Jewish capitalists having bowed to that expression of public opinion (cheers). It had been said that the Old Testament was in favour of war; but God had condemned David for engaging in wars; and he would ask, if God denounced David, who was the man after his own heart, for going to war, was he not likely still more to denounce Nicholas, who was not a man after God's own heart? (laughter.)

Mr. BURNET, in putting to the meeting the vote of thanks to the chairman, observed that the Christian was with them against Nicholas, the Jew was with them against Nicholas, and he might say that the



Turk also, if he had been present, would have been with them against Nicholas [laughter].

The resolution was then passed unanimously, and the CHAIRMAN acknowledged the honour done him, observing that he had been informed that thousands of persons had gone away from the door, unable to obtain admittance.

Three cheers were then given for Mr. Cobden, and three groans for the Messrs. Baring, and the meeting separated at half-past three o'clock.

**FREEHOLD LAND MOVEMENT.**—Various meetings, to promote district associations in favour of the Freehold Land Movement, have been held. At an assembly of the St. Pancras Society, it was stated by the Chairman (W. Scholefield, Esq., M.P.) that, by the action of this national association, the Liberal party would soon be able to carry South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire—perhaps even the Tory county of Salop; whilst in Warwickshire, Messrs. Spooner and Newdegate would be ejected at the next election. One of the speakers, Mr. W. Williams, observed that, in a political point of view, the Freehold Land Society was over-rated, as it was applicable only to 189 county members; whilst 216 boroughs, which had only 161,000 electors, and returned a majority of the House of Commons, needed principally to be operated upon. One speaker noticed that in the parish of St. Pancras, since June last, the society had enrolled members at the rate of one hundred per month. On the same day a fine meeting was held at Southampton; all the influential and leading gentlemen of the town were present; a society was formed, and after the address of Mr. J. Taylor, jun., which lasted more than two hours, and was repeatedly interrupted by loud plaudits, so great was the enthusiasm that more than one hundred shares were taken, and a determination expressed by the assembly to rescue South Hants from the Tories. At Greenwich, on Thursday, a magnificent meeting was held, at which C. Lushington, Esq., M.P., presided, when a society was formed in connexion with the Westminster Freehold Land Society, and a great number of shares taken.

**UNITED KINGDOM TEMPERANCE AND GENERAL PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.**—The ninth annual meeting of this association was held on the 4th January, when a highly satisfactory report was presented, from which we gather the following:—The society issued last year no fewer than 910 policies, a number we believe to be almost unparalleled. Notwithstanding the ravages of the cholera, the rate of mortality has suffered very little increase; being still under 1 per cent. Excluding the Funeral Fund (consisting of about 200 assurances of £20 and under, and which shows a higher rate), the deaths have been less than 9 per 1,000; which is the usual rate of mortality, supposing all the lives assured were under 24 years of age: whereas, out of 1,074 lives in department 1, nearly one-half are over 40; sixty-four are over 60; and only thirty-eight under 25. A calculation has been made of the number of deaths which should have occurred in the first departments, according to the general law of mortality, and that assumed in the premiums of the old offices. The following is the result:—

Number of deaths according to the published experience of the London Offices .....	13
Ditto, according to the Population Returns .....	14
Ditto, according to the Northampton Observations .....	21
Actual deaths (including 2 from cholera) .....	7

Assuming the experience of a cholera year to be a safe guide, the deaths which should have occurred up to this date, would be, at the lowest computation, 135, and at the highest, 219. The actual number has been 73. Of the 73 deaths which have occurred during the past nine years, 11 have been in the Funeral Fund for sums of £20 and under, and 6 have been those of persons charged extra premiums as inferior or hazardous lives. Three have been occasioned by accidents, and 14 by cholera and other epidemics.

**THE EGG WIFE AND ALBERT'S WIFE.**—One forenoon, last autumn, as her Majesty, some hundreds of miles distant from her Life Guards, was taking a solitary walk along a public road in the vicinity of Balmoral, she met a countrywoman carrying a basket of eggs, with whom she entered into conversation. In reply to a question put to her, the basket-carrier said she was going with her eggs to the place—a name given to Balmoral by the Highlanders, to distinguish it from every other place in the world. "Do you get a good price for your eggs?" inquired her Majesty. "Sometimes," replied the woman; "but we aye get the best price when the Queen comes." On this her Majesty offered to purchase the contents of the basket, and tendered a golden sovereign in exchange. "I cannot break it, my leddy," said the woman; meaning that she had not "change" enough. "Oh, never mind," said the Queen, "if you cannot break it, you must keep it whole. Take your eggs to the place, and tell the people there that the Queen has paid for them." The honest woman started back with uplifted hands, and, with joy and surprise pictured on her face, exclaimed, "Is that your ainsel, Mistress Albert? Is that your ainsel?"

**THE HOUSE OF LORDS.**—The House of Lords was opened on Wednesday for the purpose of further proroguing Parliament till the 31st inst. The reporters' gallery has been brought forward several feet nearer to the bar: the speakers will, it is to be hoped, be heard better than before. The works in the long galleries, which will form the means of communication between the new House of Commons and the House of Lords, are progressing, "but will take some time and no small sum of money to complete."

## COURT, OFFICIAL, AND PERSONAL NEWS.

**THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.**—We are informed that her Majesty will not open the next session of Parliament in person. We have reason to believe that her Majesty's absence on that occasion will be owing to the near approach of an event which will, probably, add another member to the Royal Family. —*Times.*—On Saturday preparations commenced at the New Palace at Westminster for the opening of the ensuing session. All the apparatus used in completing the internal decoration of the New House of Lords was removed. The new House of Commons will not be ready for the members until after the Easter recess. The admission of the public to view the House of Lords will recommence on Saturday, the second of February, by tickets, to be obtained at the Chamberlain's office on the 30th inst.

**THE EXPOSITION OF 1851.**—The Executive Committee of the Industry Exposition have formally published their resolution, announced by us last week, of rescinding the contract with Messrs. Munday, and have launched the project in sole reliance upon the voluntary contributions of the public. They say:—"The Commissioners wish it to be understood that they are invested with unrestricted power over the application of the funds; that it is their intention to invite competition in respect of all branches of expenditure to which competition can advantageously be applied; and that they will proceed, without delay, to establish regulations for insuring an effectual control over the expenditure, and a satisfactory audit of the accounts. It now rests with the public to determine, by the amount of their contributions, the character of the proposed exhibition, and the extent of benefit to industry in all its branches which will result from it." A meeting is to be held in the City of London on Friday next in support of the Exhibition of 1851, and will, it is understood, be attended by Lord John Russell, and the President and the Vice-President of the Board of Trade, besides many of the most influential members of the mercantile community. The scheme is now fairly afloat, and we understand that an account has been opened in the Bank of England in the names of Mr. Barclay, Mr. W. Cotton, Sir J. W. Lubbock, Mr. Peto, and Baron Rothschild, to which all contributions may be paid, either directly or through any of the London bankers. The subscription list has been headed with a donation of £1,000 from her Majesty, and another of £500 from his Royal Highness Prince Albert, and several other large sums have been already added to it. Their example will no doubt be liberally followed; the announcement of the determination of the contract with Messrs. Munday, and the statement of the Commissioners that they are invested with unrestricted power over the application of the funds, having been very favourably received in those quarters in which jealousy had been felt of the arrangements as previously subsisting.

**THE ADDRESS IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.**—We have reason to believe that in the House of Lords, Lord Essex will propose, and Lord Methuen second, the address in reply to the Queen's speech.—*Morning paper.*

**THE LATE QUEEN DOWAGER.**—The general mourning for her late Majesty the Queen Adelaide ceased on Sunday. Her Majesty and the whole of the members of the royal family remain in mourning much longer.

**IRISH ENCUMBERED ESTATES ACT.**—It is stated that there is now under the consideration of the government a bill, to be introduced in the ensuing session, for the purpose of giving more efficient action to the Irish Encumbered Estates Act.

**THE TEA DUTIES.**—In order to give as much effect as possible to the representations of the deputations who have lately had an audience with Lord John Russell on the subject of the enormous disproportion of the tea duties, some of the most eminent tea-merchants and others in the City of London are taking very active measures to have petitions, numerously signed, presented to parliament, with the view of having these imposts equalized before the close of the forthcoming session.—*Weekly Chronicle.*

**DEPUTATION ON THE TEA DUTIES.**—A deputation representing the mercantile interests of Liverpool, the magistrates and the Chamber of Commerce at Edinburgh, and the Chamber of Commerce at Glasgow, had an interview with Lord John Russell and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, on Wednesday, at the Treasury, to urge a reduction of the duties on tea. Sir Thomas Birch and Mr. Cardwell, members for Liverpool, introduced the deputation. The usual arguments in favour of reducing the duties on tea were reinforced by the explanation of the increasing difficulties found in obtaining an article of exchange for our increasing exports to China; the balance of trade on the past year is 10,000,000 dollars; and unless the import of tea is increased, we can only diminish that balance by checking our exports. The propitious state of the revenue was dwelt on as favourable to the hopes of the deputation. Lord John Russell courteously listened to all that was said; promised "best consideration;" and declined "to give a definite answer."

**AMENDMENT TO THE ADDRESS.**—We are enabled to announce that a meeting of the Protectionist members of parliament will assemble at Lord Stanley's residence, in St. James's-square, at 12 o'clock, on the 31st inst.—the day on which Parliament is summoned to meet—when the propriety of moving an amendment to the address will be taken into consideration.—*Morning Herald.*

**THE COLONIES.**—We (the *Daily News*) are given to understand that ministers contemplate a bold innovation and great improvement in our colonial policy. They have, after mature deliberation, arrived at the conclusion that justice and expediency alike demand the concession of entire self-government to the colonies in local affairs. They intend to reserve to the central imperial government the exercise only of those functions which are indispensable to unity of action in the foreign relations of the empire. And it is understood that they are prepared to intimate to the colonies their intention to withdraw the troops from every one of them that will make the necessary arrangements, and take upon itself the cost of its defensive establishments. Whether these contemplated reforms will be announced in the royal speech, or in a ministerial declaration emitted at an early period of the session, seems yet undecided. [The *Spectator* doubts the truth of these statements. It regards it as a ruse of the colonial office.]

**THE COMTE DE NEUILLY.**—A very general rumour prevailed on Thursday evening, to the effect that the ex-King of the French had expired suddenly on Thursday morning, at Claremont. The rumour is altogether unfounded.

**LEAGUE OF BROTHERHOOD.—RAGGED-SCHOOLS.**—An interesting and imposing scene recently occurred at Field-lane Ragged-schools, in consequence of a visit from Mr. E. Fry and Mr. J. H. Tunmer, both of the League of Brotherhood, who, having received a present of some dollars from the children of the Sabbath-school at Newton, Massachusetts States, through the interest of Elihu Burritt, for the Ragged-schools in this country, repaired thither for the purpose of seeing the children previous to the distribution of some little books on the following Sabbath morning. After a most thrilling and animated address from Mr. E. Fry, in which the children seemed to take intense interest, he put the question to them as to what reply they would like to send in answer to the Sabbath-school at Newton; they hastily replied, "Good luck to 'em, Sir;" while some others, who took a little longer to consider, called out, "Wish 'em a happy new year, Sir." We trust these little mutual interchanges of love and good feeling will continue to bind the hearts of the children of the two countries, and be one of the means of spreading the growing sentiment of the universal brotherhood of man in the schools of England, America, and the world.

**A CALIFORNIAN VENTURE.**—A Liverpool merchant, who purchased £5,000 worth of American flour, at 22s. per barrel, sent the whole out to California, from this port, where it proved an excellent venture. The barrels sold at 86s. each, and he cleared £10,000 by the transaction.—*Liverpool Chronicle.*

**SAFETY OF RAILWAY TRAVELLING.**—In a six months' return from the various lines of the kingdom, the total number of passengers carried was 31,000,000, of whom about three millions and a half travelled by the first class, twelve millions by the second, and the remainder, amounting to nearly sixteen millions, by the third. As to the safety of this mode of travelling, it must now be surely beyond question, even in the minds of the most timid. Out of a grand total of 57,960,784 passengers conveyed, during a period of twelve months, twenty-one only were killed, of whom twelve met their deaths by their own carelessness or misconduct, leaving but nine bona fide casualties upon near fifty-eight million ventures, and giving the odds of more than 6,000,000 to 1 in favour of the traveller's safety.

**EXTRAORDINARY RECOVERY OF LOST MONEY.**—Last week a gentleman resident in the neighbourhood of Haddington visited that town for the annual collection of his accounts. Having received about £500, he entered a shop there, and upon examining his money, missed the sum of £100. He immediately retraced his steps, and chanced to encounter a group of children in the street, engaged in the examination of what seemed to be pictures, but which, upon a more narrow inspection, he found to be his missing notes, each of £20 value. They were of course recovered from the children, who received in return a small gratuity.—*Edinburgh Register.*

**A GOOD OLD AGE.**—There is now living at Norton, near this city, an old woman, named Ann Finch, who has very nearly attained the age of 108 years. She is blind, almost deaf, and has been bedridden for the last few months, but she still eats heartily, and drinks a quantity of cider each day. Ann Burrow, her eldest daughter, who is living at Croome d'Abitot, and regularly attends Worcester market, is 69 years of age.—*Worcester Herald.*

**REMARKABLE ACCIDENT.**—Mr. Thomas Hounslow, a bootmaker of Oxford, has lost his life by a singular accident while skating. He fell upon the ice, and a gimlet which he had in his pocket was driven into his back; a friend had some difficulty in pulling it out with both hands; but Mr. Hounslow was able to walk home. At night he grew very ill, and he died in a week: the gimlet had lacerated a nerve close to the spinal column.

**FIVE RUFFIANS IMPRISONED IN APPLEBY GAOL** grew riotous, threatened the governor, and armed themselves with a fire-shovel and broom-sticks. The governor collected a number of constables, and a rush was made into the room where the prisoners were assembled; a desperate conflict ensued; and eventually the convicts were so beaten that they were obliged to call to the gaoler to obtain mercy for them. They were put into heavy irons.



## LITERATURE.

*Juvenile Calendar and Zodiac of Flowers.* By Mrs. T. K. HERVEY. London: Hall, Virtue, and Co.

BOTH in the design and the execution, this is one of the most charming gift-books for the young which we have met with this season. The materials are alight enough, being merely, in addition to an enumeration of the festivals, noted days and customs, and the flowers, birds, and insects of each month, a description of some member of the insect world, and a narrative of a semi-fabulous character, in which some selected flower or tree is made to play the hero or heroine. It is in these last that the interest of the book chiefly lies. Conceived in a poetic spirit, gracefully written, studded with delicate conceits, and conveying, in a sweetly simple style, some good and kindly lesson, they are well calculated to elevate the moral tastes of the more thoughtful and well-informed among the young. We extract one of these flowery fables, entitled, "The May Thorn, and the Laden Breeze," as a specimen of the contents of the volume:—

"On the south side of a great city, some distance from the crowded streets where poor men made their homes, stood a fair and wide-spreading hawthorn-tree. This sweet-scented May-thorn stood quite alone. Its roots, which spread beneath the earth as far and as wide as its branches waved in the air, never felt any other roots of other trees mingling and twining with its own: its upper branches never interlaced themselves with kindred branches: its blossoms had no companionship with neighbour Thorns—for there was not another tree for roods round. . . . Sometimes, on rare bright days, when all the city shops were shut, and there was some great holiday, young men and maidens would stroll out from the dark, dull streets, and rest a moment beneath her shade. Or an old couple, a man and his wife, with grey and scanty locks and feeble limbs, would wander to her side, and watch their little grandchildren play about her feet. Nor was this all. One day, a stray visitor, whom the May-tree had never welcomed before, was seen resting for support, pale and wan, against her wide bole. This was no other than a poor artisan, who, cooped up for days, and weeks and months, in a very small room in one of the city streets, had at last seized his first leisure hour to walk out among the fields, and taste the long-denied blessing of the freshly-breathing air. The kindly season did her best to welcome the toiling man. Cowslips budded around his path, and the Cuckoo-flowers laid their offerings at his feet. The South-wind, for whose soothing breath he had so long pined, played softly with his hair, and, as he stopped under the Hawthorn boughs to rest, shook down light blossoms from the tree, till his very brows wore garlands of the May. The poor man, after this, went on his way; and, as he paced again with weary steps back to the city, the South-wind sighed! The May-tree heard that gentle breathing, and she said to the South-wind, 'What is this? Is the breeze of the South faint with the breath of these blossoms, which are my children—or do my branches stand in the way of his wings, so that he cannot float over the meads?' 'For none of these causes do I sigh,' answered the soft South. 'The breath of thy children, the blossoms, I love almost as dearly as thou canst. Between thy branches I can glide with ease—so thou stayest me not in my path. But I sighed for that weary man.' 'Ah! well you might,' replied the genial Thorn; 'his cheek was paler than my milk-white petals. What can we do for him?' 'Much,' said the South-wind, 'much you may do for him, and for such as he is, if you will.' 'Tell me but the way,' eagerly replied the Tree, 'and I will give my best leaves to assist him.' 'Your leaves he does not want,' said the Breeze. 'Be not like the race to which he belongs: give the poor man what he does want, and not that which is useless to him. In a word, here are my wings; load them as quickly as you can with the odours that lie hidden deep in the hearts of your children, and I will bear them to the city, and they shall steal softly upon the sense of that pale man, and cheer him at his labour.' The Wind's tender pity communicated itself to the flowering Thorn, and she felt compassion for the poor man at his toil. So she whispered to her children, the blossoms, who, like human children, held all their sweet things fast, even in their sleep—and they gave them up at their parent's wish. Then she loaded the wings of the South-wind, whose name was Auster; and soon he swept away with his prize to the dreary city—and the silent meadows around the May-thorn missed his breezy tones.

"He directly sought out the house where the pale man lived, and the window where he sat at work. The window stood wide open; so the South-wind gave a few wild flaps with his airy wings, and at one fell sweep cast all the delicious odours of the May into the room! How pleasant, how refreshing it was! The poor man looked up—he thought, 'How sweet it is!' He even fancied he could see the blossoms that yielded this delightful scent. He seemed to hear the gentle rustle of the leaves, and to feel the cool shade under the arching boughs. . . . The poor man's face flushed with a sudden joy; and though he still worked on as diligently as before, he worked more cheerfully. Not only did he feel refreshed for the moment—he felt that he was cared for. When the kindly South saw the happiness he had brought he was content. He could not fly back to the May-thorn to tell her the news—for the South-wind always travels to the north, as the North-wind travels to the south; but he quietly folded his pinions, and laid himself down to rest, and when the North-wind came hurrying that way on his swift journey, the South-wind swiftly whispered a kind message to the Thorn! As soon as the May-tree heard how the South-wind had fared, she rejoiced sincerely; and as she clasped her last-born blossoms in her spreading arms, she felt thankful that her little ones, in their sweetness, had a heart for the poor man."

We should add, that Richard Doyle has contributed twelve characteristic illustrations of the months, admirably in keeping with the letter-press.

*Lectures to Young Men on their Educational, Moral, and Religious Improvement.* Delivered in Glasgow, by Ministers of various Denominations. Two Vols. Collins, Glasgow and London.

APART from the intrinsic merit of these very cheap volumes, their appearance is matter for sincere congratulation. The lectures had their origin in the growth of a conviction that some extensive scheme of usefulness for the special benefit of the young men of Glasgow was urgently called for; and were undertaken as the result of several preliminary conferences, and, finally, of a public meeting. Such was the interest excited by the announcement of the course, that 1,700 tickets of admission were purchased immediately. This seemed to necessitate a re-delivery of the course, for which 1,600 tickets were as readily disposed of. Added to this success, which, as the committee observe, "has no precedent in the annals of lecturing," at least in Scotland, arrangements were made for a second course, and for similar courses at Edinburgh and Paisley. The publication of the two courses in the volumes before us appropriately completes "this first moral demonstration in favour of young men," and will both directly and indirectly further the object of the promoters. The lectures are twenty in number, and among the lecturers are Drs. Candlish, Wardlaw, Alexander, Buchanan, Heugh, Paterson, Hetherington, and other Scottish divines of eminence. The subjects are varied, though they might, we think, have been still more so, with advantage, as well as more definite. All are marked more or less by ability, fitness, and attractiveness, and several of them afford evidence how greatly the lecturers were moved by the moral characteristics of the assembly they were called upon to address. Dr. Sprague's Letters to young men, founded on the history of Joseph, form a very useful appendage to the lectures, which will no doubt be very widely circulated.

*The Happy Family: a Picture from Life.* By THOMAS WALLACE. London: Ramsey, Brompton.

"THIS little volume is the first of a projected series of small books, didactic and descriptive, adapted to domestic, school, and Christian libraries, and designed especially to benefit intelligent young persons." The price is low, and the writer's purpose and principles good, but we cannot say much for the work in other respects; it being somewhat common-place and mechanical, as well as wanting in vivacity. We should have thought that a Dissenting minister in "adorning a tale" by the introduction of the clergyman might have "pointed a moral" more effectively than the writer has done in the present instance.

*Memoirs of Eminent Sunday-school Teachers.* By the Rev. THOMAS TIMPSON. London: John Snow.

WE have here in a small compass upwards of one hundred short biographies, arranged under the heads of ministers and ministers' wives, missionaries and female missionaries, deacons, superintendents, philanthropists, and philanthropic ladies—a goodly fellowship! The only fault of which the reader is likely to complain is the necessary brevity of the sketches; but in many cases this will but induce a desire to obtain further particulars from larger biographies, and the tendency of the whole will be to inspire feelings of gratitude to God for the beneficial influence of the Sunday-school as well on the teacher as the taught, and a desire to perpetuate and extend its influence. Two essays are added, on "The Importance of Sunday-schools," and "The Office of Sunday-school Teachers." The first of these is full of interesting information, and the second is comprehensive and practical.

*Suggestions on Female Education.* Two introductory Lectures on English Literature and Moral Philosophy. By A. J. SCOTT, A.M. London: Taylor, Walton, and Maberly.

THESE lectures were delivered in the Ladies' College, Bedford-square, by the Professor of the English Language and Literature in University College—a fact likely, in some quarters, to provoke a smile or a sneer, but which, by the thoughtful of both sexes, will be regarded as one of deep significance. Be it known, however, that Mr. Scott has no regard for the *genus* Blue-stocking. Nay! he does not hesitate to rank the Blue as "a nuisance," and to declare further, that he wages against them a war of extermination, hoping, by such endeavours as are contemplated in the establishment of the Ladies' College, to extinguish the race, and to produce many specimens of the extreme opposite of a Blue—"a well-educated gentleman!" What is wanting, he says, in English women, "is neither right feeling nor active and discursive intellect, but the harmony of the two—the heart in the head, the head in the heart—the equipoise of the soul. Too often they have been taught feeling without thought, and thought without a reference to their feelings." These lectures are professedly suggestive rather than com-

plete, and contain some good thoughts, vigorously expressed, but, recollecting the sex of the auditors, their tone strikes us as being somewhat ungenial.

*The Philosophy of Food and Nutrition in Plants and Animals.* By the Rev. EDWIN SIDNEY, M.A. Religious Tract Society.

*British Fish and Fisheries.* Religious Tract Society.

MR. SIDNEY's work, which he modestly describes as containing the "humble gleanings of his leisure moments from the walks of physical science," is full of scientific information, interesting to all, and imparted in a very clear, intelligible, and pleasing manner. It forms an admirable popular digest of both long-established principles and the result of recent chemical researches, accompanied by pertinent reflections, evidencing the Christian spirit as well as the scientific attainments of the author.

"British Fish and Fisheries," one of the Monthly Series, is also complete in its zoological information; and under the heads of "The General Prevalence of Fishes as the Food of Man," and "British Fisheries and their Produce," groups together some interesting particulars; but it is written in a matter-of-fact style, very far removed from the quaint pleasantry of old Walton, or the racy gusto of Christopher North.

*An Address to the Electors and Non-Electors of the United Kingdom on the Defective State of the Representative System, and the consequent Unequal and Oppressive Taxation and Prodigal Expenditure of the Public Money.* By WILLIAM WILLIAMS (late M.P. for Coventry). London: Effingham Wilson.

*A Few Words in Favour of the Liberty of the Press, and the Abolition of the Penny Stamp on Newspapers.* By JAMES BLAIR. London: Vickers, Holywell-street.

OF the first of these pamphlets, we would rather say to our readers, "Go, purchase, and read," than attempt to describe its contents. These are hard, undeniable, astonishing facts and figures, with which, however, John Bull is, happily, becoming too familiar to allow him to remain longer content with things as they are! Already the stone is beginning to exhibit the effect of the continuous dropping.

The object of the second is more specific; viz., "the total abolition of the stamp-duty on newspapers, and the unqualified freedom of the press from all control, except that of a court of law." Besides furnishing many important details illustrating the injurious effects of our financial restrictions on the press, it earnestly defends the working classes against "the libel that they are unfit to be entrusted with an unlimited free press."

*The Life of Queen Elizabeth.* By JACOB ABBOTT. London: Low, Fleet-street.

*The Life of Charles the Second.* By JACOB ABBOTT. London: Low, Fleet-street.

*England in the Eighteenth Century; or, A History of the Reigns of the House of Hanover.* London: Religious Tract Society.

JACOB ABBOTT's works are, as they profess to be, biographies, rather than histories. Their author has striven to confine himself strictly to "historic truth," and evidently to be impartial also. His style is clear and intelligible, and the books will, we should think, be found by young people to be as entertaining as they are instructive.

"The House of Hanover" brings down the Tract Society's useful and compact History of England to the Peace of Amiens.

*Spiritual Ruin and Practical Romanism in the Diocese of Oxford.* By Rev. W. FERGUSON, of Bicester. London: Ward and Co., and Green.

IN a bold and faithful letter addressed to Bishop Wilberforce, Mr. Ferguson has made a further exposure of the scandalous state of the diocese of Oxford, where "pantheism, rationalism, mysticism, formalism, practical socialism, and fatalism," are among the many creeds with which the author has come in contact, and where the bulk of the population is "in a deplorable state of ignorance, immorality, and wretchedness." It supplies a vivid picture of the workings of a State Church in an agricultural county, where Dissent forms but a feeble barrier against a rampant and bigoted ecclesiasticism.

*Spinal Curvature. Its Theory: its Cure.* By GEORGE N. ERYS, Surgeon to Harrison's Spinal Institution.

AMONG the many interesting and important scientific researches reduced to practical utility by the labours of great and indefatigable men, that mode of treatment by the late Dr. Harrison, applied to the restoration of the curved spine, is not the least. It claims to be the only purely scientific remedial agency hitherto thus applied; and has but to establish such claim in the mind of any individual, in order to exhibit clearly the inefficiency of other modes. Like all truth, it can



safely stand the most violent assaults of its enemies, and the encounter will but prove the very point which they wish to make null. Like all truth, it will then appear to most advantage when roughly handled by those who would disparage its intrinsic qualities: the more they endeavour to deface, the more do they reveal to the world its worth: for thus has it been decreed that evil shall frustrate its own designs. Like all truth, it has been spit upon, made the subject of noisy and ignorant vituperation, and called to conflict; but has gone on, the while, silently working out its own great problem, and has already done what the party thus disparaging has been satisfied to talk of doing. Curved spines have been made straight through it: human misery has been lessened; and so striking have been many of the cases of cure, that parties most bitterly opposed have often been unable to deny the efficacy of the treatment in individual instances.

Those whose minds are biased only towards what comes in the name of truth, and as remedial of either moral or physical evil, will ever be ready to investigate, and will receive with open arms, what bears the impress of general utility founded on the unerring laws of the Creator. To such, the work now before us, of Mr. George N. Epps, will be welcome. Mr. Epps is a clear and forcible expositor of the system of Dr. Harrison. No one can carefully peruse this volume without being struck by the lucid and decided tone which pervades it—a lucidity and decision resulting from mastery of the subject, and from that subject being one of simple fact, as capable of exact and convincing demonstration as are any of the problems of Euclid.

Mr. George N. Epps enters at once in *medias res*, and gives a concise view of the spinal column, with its very important position and duties with respect to the human fabric. We see immediately how much depends on its erect position; what evil must be the result of a departure from the same; and how certain, because obedient to fixed laws, must be the cure effected by a course of treatment such as that in question—a course which, when explained to us, appears but the natural deduction, so to speak, from the previous statements.

With this volume in his hand, we may safely assert that any non-medical person, anxious to promote the cure of some sufferer, or perhaps seeking it for himself, might ably enter the lists with even medical enemies. Such inquirer, when convinced, will be able to show why the treatment under which he is about to place himself or his friend is the only mode on which he can rest his firm belief of cure. By so doing he may have to run counter to many great names, but this is of minor importance to an enlightened and earnest mind.

Mr. Epps shows that the treatment of which he is the advocate is superior to all other modes in this one point, viz. that it does not distress the patient or exhaust the powers. It insists on the recumbent posture, without deviation under any pretense, from the commencement of active means to the completion of the cure, and on other points equally important; but it recognises no tortures; and we may remark, that comparative ease and alleviation are experienced almost immediately, although the cure may, in some cases, be long in effecting.

It is not for us to enter on a detail of the plans: we can but recommend this work to all who feel deeply on the subject of which it treats, from either personal or family affliction, or from a philanthropic interest in whatever confers benefit on their fellows. We hesitate not to say that they will be amply repaid for the time thus spent, in a clear conviction obtained on the matter of which it treats, and in their consequently increased power of rightly-directed benevolent action.

The Reviewer also begs to acknowledge the receipt of the following publications:—

*The Young Teacher.* By a SUPERINTENDENT. Birmingham: Showell. London: Green.—*The Philosophy of our Work.* A brief Essay read before a Conference of Sunday-school Teachers. By a FELLOW-WORKER. London: Aylott and Jones.—Practical, pointed, pithy, and breathing an admirable spirit. There are few Sunday-school teachers who may not read it with profit.—*The Saddle on the Right Horse.* Suggestions addressed to the Members of the Glasgow Poor Law Reform Association. By a POLITICAL AND MORAL REFORMER.—*Refutation of the Popish Doctrine of Christ's Gift of the Keys to St. Peter.* By the Rev. N. CORRADO. Liverpool: Dunsford. London: Partridge and Oakley.—This author having quitted the Church of Rome, has halted on his journey at that half-way house, the Church of England—now believes in bishops instead of Popes. He dedicates his little work to the Bishop of Chester.—*A Letter to the Editor of the "Journal of Sacred Literature," in Reply to Two Articles by Dr. Davidson.* By J. SCOTT PORTER. London: Simms and McIntyre.—*German Literature.* Part II. Edinburgh: Chambers.—*Points of Difference between the Old and New Christian Churches.* By Mrs. W. TURNER, of New York. London: Hodson, Clifford's-inn-passage.—An exposition of the doctrines of the "New Jerusalem Church," or Swedenborgianism.—*The Scripture Doctrine of Perfection.* By Rev. ASA MAHAN, of Ohio. London: Partridge and Oakley.—*An Introduction to the Study of the Mind.* By DANIEL BISHOP. London:

Longman and Co.—*The Mother's Friend.* Vol. 2. London: Green.—*Fair-play's a Jewel.* By Captain WARNER. London: Oliver.—The author's name explains the object of this pamphlet.—*Pictorial Maps for the Illustration of the Land, the Sea, and the Heavens, on the Walls of Large Buildings.* By S. BANNISTER. London: Mitchell.—*The Bible: its Profitable Use.* By Rev. G. H. DAVIS, Bristol. London: Houlston and Stoneman.—Outspoken and sensible.

**A FARMER NOT AFRAID OF FREE-TRADE.**—The important farm of Cessford, in the county of Roxburgh, was let last week to Mr. Bell, Mareheleugh, at an advance of £150 per annum, the present rent being £1,400. Mr. Bell belongs to that industrious, enterprising, and, consequently, successful, class of farmers for which Roxburghshire is so much famed. This class is well supported by the Duke of Roxburgh, who gives all his tenants 19-year leases, founded upon the most liberal system of farming; and as he does not encourage the breeding of vermin in the shape of game upon his estates, his tenants have little to complain of. At present there is not a word about protection amongst them.—*Daily Mail.*

**SHOCKING STORY.**—A fine interesting girl, aged seven years, the eldest daughter of Mr. James Lockwood, of Gully Hole, having been left alone in the house with Mr. John Wortley, bar-keeper, her grandfather, at Snittle-gate, near Holmfirth, on Tuesday week, received such injuries at his hands as to leave no probable hopes of her recovery. It appears that Wortley has, for some time past, exhibited symptoms of derangement of mind, and had more than once attempted suicide. On the day above mentioned, his wife, having occasion to be absent from home for a short time, left Wortley and the grandchild in the house together. The presumption is, from all that can be ascertained relative to the tragedy, that shortly after his wife's departure, the poor desponding wretch again essayed self-destruction, and that being checked by the little girl, as on a former occasion, he determined at once to silence her. For this purpose (having first locked the door) he armed himself with the poker, and with this weapon he struck the poor unoffending girl repeated and savage strokes over the head. This continued until a cart-driver, passing by, heard screams and the sound of heavy blows, which induced him to pause and listen at the bar-house door. Being convinced that foul work was being enacted he at once hurried to an adjoining house (the Junction Inn), and, assistance having been here procured, the doors were promptly burst open. A shocking spectacle presented itself. The old man, with an insane glare, stood brandishing the bloody weapon of his cruelty over the now almost lifeless body of his victim. Medical assistance, however, was immediately sought and procured, and up to Friday morning the poor little innocent still lived. Of her ultimate recovery, however, no reasonable hope can be entertained. Wortley underwent an examination before the magistrates on Wednesday, and seemed to be decidedly insane.—*Halifax Guardian.*

**MR. DISRAELI'S HIGH RENT.**—With the most unblushing assurance, Mr. Disraeli calls our statement of last week an "unmitigated falsehood." In our sixth page our readers will find something about it. We are now in possession of additional information. In Mr. Norris's time Mr. Gillett paid £200 per annum rent. He offered Mr. Disraeli £250 for the same farm. The Protectionist chief refused this. Mr. Gillett gave up the farm, and Mr. Redrup has taken it at the advanced rent. Mr. Gillett made this statement in a room at Great Marlow, before at least twelve persons, after Mr. Disraeli's flaming speech. Protection was in full swing when the rent was £200; now that protection is down, up goes the rent to £250. Then when we declare that the great organ of mystification, and the mighty hero of village ascendancy, is receiving an advance of rent, he has the daring to affirm that it is false. We convict him before the nation.—*Bucks Advertiser and Aylesbury News.*

**ATTEMPTED SUFFOCATION BY A PLASTER.**—Two men with blackened faces entered the shop of Miss Gace, at Moorgate, adjoining East Retford, in the evening, and asked for two half-ounces of tobacco; one of them next requested a drink of water; and when Miss Gace went into the kitchen to obtain it, he followed her and clapped a plaster over her mouth. Then they tied her in an arm-chair; took her money and some of her goods; pressed the plaster more closely over her face; set fire to a pile of paper and cloth; and escaped by the back-door. With great presence of mind, Miss Gace threw herself and chair upon the floor, thereby making a noise which attracted a neighbour's attention. Her life was saved by the removal of the plaster; though her neck was dreadfully swollen from the difficulty of respiration.

**SLIPPING IN FROSTY WEATHER.**—It is important, at this period, to know that by heating iron filings, rough emery powder, &c., on a shovel over the fire, and then gently standing upon the same, so as to imbue the grains into gutta percha soles, a roughness of surface will be produced which will afford the utmost protection, even on the most slippery roads.

**THE LATE SIR C. FORBES.**—We understand that Sir Charles Forbes has left £500 in aid of the Asylum for Idiots.

There is no foundation for the report that Her Majesty contemplates the creation of a new literary order—the Order of Minerva. The rumour is simply a revival of a joke as old as the reign of Queen Anne.

## LITERARY MISCELLANY.

**BENJAMIN DISRAELI.**—His talents fail to win respect. His coxcombry is without grace; his seriousness without conviction. He has an active fancy, surprising command of language, no inconsiderable knowledge, especially of history, powers of massing facts into a symmetrical appearance of generalization, and a keen sense of the ludicrous and humbug in others. He is a shrewd observer of men and things; but he has neither the eye to see, nor the soul to comprehend, anything much below the surface. There is little depth in him of any kind—thought, or feeling; hence the want of vitality in all he does. He cannot paint, for he cannot grasp a character; his sole power in that line consists in hitting off the obtrusive peculiarities, the jettings out of an individuality. In his book you meet with nothing noble, nothing generous, nothing tender, nothing impassioned. His passion is mere sensuality, as his eloquence is mere diction—the splendour of words, not the lustre of thoughts. Imagination, in the large and noble sense, he has none, for his sensibility is sustained by no warmth. Humour he has none, for humour is deep. . . . Disraeli conceives himself to be a man of genius; in truth, he is only the prospectus of a genius. He has magnificent plans, but he writes prefaces instead of books. All the promise which allures in a prospectus, arrests attention in him; but he does not perform what he promises. He has aspiration, but no inspiration; ambition, but no creative power. In his poems, in his novels, and in his speeches, you see that he means something great, but has not the force to originate it. As an author, in spite of a certain notoriety and undeniable talents, his value is null. He has written books, and these books have been immensely successful; but they have no place in our literature—they are indubitable failures, or fleeting ephemerides. He has taken many leaps, but has gained no footing. He has written a quarter epic—he has written a tragedy—he has written novels, pamphlets, and a political treatise on the constitution—but all these works are as dead as the last week's newspaper. The most insignificant niche in the temple is denied them. If anybody looks at them, it is not on their account, but on his account. The noise they made has passed away like the vacuous enthusiasm of after-dinner friendships. They have achieved notoriety for their author, oblivion for themselves.—*British Quarterly.*

**CALVIN AND THE BURNING OF SERVETUS.**—The 27th of October [1553] was appointed for the execution of Servetus; and on the morning of that day he requested to have an interview with Calvin. The latter repaired to his dungeon, accompanied by two members of the Council. The scene which followed is taken from Calvin's own narrative. On one of the Councillors asking Servetus what he wanted, he replied, that he wished to beg Calvin's mercy. Hereupon the latter protested that he had never pursued any private offence. He reminded him, that sixteen years before he had used all his endeavours, even at the risk of his life, to reclaim him, and reconcile him with the faithful; that he had afterwards exhorted him by letters; in short, that he had shown him all possible kindness, till Servetus, taking offence at some of his free and holy admonitions, had attacked him with rabid fury. Calvin then said, that dropping all that concerned himself personally; he begged him rather to ask mercy of God, whom he had so atrociously blasphemed. "When I perceived," continues Calvin, "that my advice and exhortations were of no avail, I was not willing to be wiser than my Master allows; and, following the rule of St. Paul, departed from a self-condemned heretic, who bore his mark and reprobation in his heart." . . . Calvin had written to Farel, requesting him to come to Geneva and attend upon Servetus in his last moments; an office which could not well be undertaken by any of the Genevese clergy, who had condemned him. Farel obeyed this summons, and arrived in Geneva time enough to hear the sentence pronounced. He accompanied the unhappy Spaniard to the stake, and has recorded his last moments in a letter to Ambrose Blarer. A little way from the city of Geneva rises a gentle but extended eminence, called Champey, or Champel, the place appointed for the execution of Servetus. Early in the morning of the 27th of October, he was led from prison to undergo his doom. As the procession slowly ascended the hill, the stake appeared in sight, though partly hidden by the oak branches which had been heaped around it, still bearing their autumnal leaves. A crowd had gathered round the spot where he was to undergo his sentence, and to escape from his earthly judges to the presence of a higher and infallible tribunal. Arrived at the summit of the hill, he fell on the earth in an attitude of prayer; and while he lay absorbed in his devotions, Farel thus addressed the assembled multitude—"See," said he, "the power of Satan when he hath once gotten possession of us. This man is particularly learned, and it may be thought he was doing right; but now the devil hath him. Beware, lest the same thing happen to yourselves!" Farel, who had been with Servetus since seven o'clock in the morning, had not ceased exhorting him to acknowledge his errors: but so far was he from doing this, that he persisted in saying that he suffered unjustly, that he was led as a victim to the slaughter; at the same time beseeching God to have mercy on his accusers. At last Farel said, "Do you, who are so great a sinner, attempt to justify yourself? I had determined to accompany you till your last breath, and to exhort all to pray for you, in the hope that you would edify the people; but if you continue to speak as you do, I will resign



you to the judgment of God, and abide with you on longer." Hereupon, continues Farel, he was silent, and spoke not again in the same manner. When Servetus arose from his devotions, Farel exhorted him to address the people: but sighs and groans almost choked his utterance, and all that he could utter was, "Oh God! oh, God!" When Farel asked him if he had nothing else to say, he replied, "What can I speak of but of God?" Farel now told him, that if he had a wife or a child, and wished to make his will, there was a notary present: but to this suggestion Servetus made no answer. At a hint of Farel's, he requested the assembled multitude to pray for him; but to the last moment he could not be induced to address Christ as the eternal Son of God. About mid-day, Servetus was led to the stake. Before it lay a large block of wood, on which he was to sit. An iron chain encompassed his body, and held him to the stake; his neck was fastened to it by a strong cord, which encircled it several times. On his head was placed a crown of plaited straw, and leaves strewed with sulphur, to assist in suffocating him. At his girdle were suspended both his printed books and the manuscript which he had sent to Calvin—the causes of his miserable end. Servetus begged the executioner to put him quickly out of his misery; but the fellow, either from accident or design, had not been properly instructed in his duty, and had collected a heap of green wood. When the fire was kindled, Servetus uttered such a piercing shriek that the crowd fell back with a shudder: some, more humane than the authorities, ran and threw in faggots; nevertheless, his sufferings lasted about half an hour. Just before he expired, he cried with a terrible voice, "Jesus, thou Son of the eternal God, have mercy upon me!" thus persisting in his heresy to the latest breath. It is related in the book which passes under the name of "Veticanne," that Bernardin Ochino, the celebrated preacher, on his return from England, arrived in Geneva the day following the execution, and on hearing it related expressed so much horror and indignation as to give rise to the hatred with which Calvin ever afterwards pursued him. The scene had such an effect upon Farel himself that he had not strength to relate it to Calvin, but returned to Neuchâtel without seeing him.—*Dyer's Life of Calvin.*

**NEW ASYLUM FOR INFANT ORPHANS.**—The 12th annual election of children took place on Monday at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street. Mr. D. W. Wire, in the absence of Lord Dudley C. Stuart, from indisposition, took the chair. It appeared from a printed statement, "That, it being the object of this charity to receive and bless the fatherless infant, without distinction of sex, place, or religious conviction, a fundamental law had been established, beyond the control of any future general meeting, or any act of incorporation, that, while the education of the infant family shall be strictly religious and scriptural, no denominational catechism whatever shall be introduced, and that no particular form whatever shall be imposed on any child contrary to the religious convictions of the surviving parent or guardian of such child." It was stated that at the present time there are 85 children in the asylum, and the object of the meeting was to increase the number by 15. There were 56 candidates, and the required number having been elected, the meeting separated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

**SMITHFIELD NUISANCE.**—On Friday, at about two o'clock, the inhabitants of Aldersgate were thrown into a state of considerable confusion in consequence of an infuriated bullock passing down the street, on its way to Smithfield. The animal, after butting at a few harmless and disinterested spectators, without occasioning any material inconvenience, except creating a sensation of terror, made a decidedly hostile approach towards a poor woman, who had just come up from the country to see her daughter. She was knocked down, her head was bruised, and she was forcibly and unceremoniously thrust into a shop, to the surprise of a party who had just sat down to partake of a comfortable repast. The bullock then took it into his head to effect an entrance into a pepper-mint shop, a few doors off. Having broken ten squares of glass in the window, and passing through the shop, he stationed himself in the parlour, upsetting and destroying the furniture, and frightening into fits several old women. By this time there was a considerable concourse of people assembled. The animal was, with some difficulty, got out of the shop, and, pursued by some hundreds of boys and drovers, was at length secured in Charterhouse-square.

**DEPARTURE OF THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.**—The "Enterprise," Captain Collison, and "Investigator," Commander McClure, left Plymouth on Sunday. From Plymouth the expedition sails direct to Valparaiso, where fresh provisions will be obtained. Thence it crosses the Equator, and proceeds to the Sandwich Islands, where the Commodore will wait instructions from the Admiralty at home, prior to joining the "Plover" brig, which is to accompany the "Investigator" and "Enterprise" to Behring's Straits, and assist in the prosecution of their perilous adventure.

**FIRES IN LONDON DURING 1849.**—The annual report of the Fire Brigades, of the outbreak of conflagrations in the metropolis and its suburbs, during the past year, was issued yesterday by its superintendent. The total number appears to have been 835, involving the destruction of between 400 and 500 houses. Although an increase over the previous years, the loss of property, in the aggregate, has not been so great. It states that twenty persons lost their lives at the fires.

## CLEANINGS.

The autograph of Milton was sold, the other day, in London, for £40 10s.; and the first edition of the plays of Shakspeare was knocked down for £35 10s.

"It is stated," observes the *Stamford Mercury*, "that bloodhounds have been again employed to hunt down poachers on an estate near Stamford, and that one man has been rather seriously injured."

There can be among human beings no such thing as neutral associations. Good or evil must be the result.

It is stated that Sir Robert Peel has engaged a Mr. Matthews, from Wigtonshire, at a salary of £500 a-year, to superintend the improvements on his estates in Staffordshire, and to give information to the farmers as to the means of increasing and improving their produce.

A sturgeon was sent from Scarborough to Billingsgate last week, which was ten feet long, five in girth, and weighed nearly 400 lbs.

A few days since, as the gamekeeper of W. J. Watts, Esq., of Teignmouth, was shooting, at Kingssteignton, two partridges flew across the road, and immediately afterwards two crows. Each crow killed his bird, and the keeper picked them both up.—*Exeter Gazette.*

The discovery of an extensive manufacture of base coin in London has been made, consisting chiefly of half-crown and five-shilling pieces. The coins are admirably imitated, and their "ring" is identical with genuine silver. The half-crowns are dated George III., 1817; George III., 1819; and George IV., 1826. The principal ingredient in their composition is blamuth; and they are finished off by electro-plating.

A generous man will, in his treatment to an enemy, resemble the sun, which pours light all around it—even upon the clouds which try to dim its lustre.

A true picture of despair is a pig reaching through a hole in the fence, to get a cabbage that lies a few inches beyond his reach.

The *Liverpool Mercury* shows that the revenue of the last year of free trade in corn, derived from a nominal registration duty of 1s. the quarter, has been within £70,000 of the average annual revenue derived under the high duties and the sliding-scale of 1828.

**ATHENIAN WIT.**—Professor Anderson gave two prizes in Edinburgh (a silver cup and a twelfth cake) for the best two comedies, one night last week, in the Music Hall. The successful two were the following:—1. Why did the Highlanders do most execution at Waterloo? Because every man had one *kilt* before the battle began. 2. Why is a poor workhouse boy at Christmas like the Emperor of Russia at present? Because he's confounded *Hungary*, and longs for a piece of *Turkey*. If these were the best of the batch, what must the others have been?

**THE SECRETS OF THE DRESSING-ROOM.**—At a large dinner-party given the other day by one of our fashionables who has already passed a *certain age*, yet who still piques herself on the beauty and abundance of her raven tresses, her little daughter, a fair-haired, blue-eyed fairy of some six or seven summers, appeared at the dessert with her golden tresses dyed as black as a raven's wing. "What is the meaning of this metamorphosis?" exclaimed both parents and guests in astonishment. The little girl laughed joyously, and naively answered, "Ah! I have blackened my hair with the water with which mamma blackens hers!" Mamma's face became as black as her hair.

It is stated by the *Morning Chronicle*, that Jenny Lind has signed an agreement at Lubeck to go to America and the Havana in August or September, and "sing only in concerts and oratorios." She will be about a year and a half performing her engagement, and will receive "fully £70,000 for the time,"—a sum of £80,000 is to be placed in pledge with Messrs. Baring.

A New Project has been announced under the title of "The Economic Cab Company," which engages, by its prospectus, to serve London with good, clean, elegant cabs; to supply each cab with two strong, serviceable horses, and one civil, easily-satisfied cabman; to charge 6d. instead of 8d. a mile, and to provide lights inside, with many other subordinate advantages. Capital, £40,000, to be raised in £1 shares.

**THE RUSSIAN LOAN.**—In a leading article on Friday (the day of the meeting at the London Tavern) the *Times* wrote:—"That the 'transaction' [loan] was effectually completed within a few hours of its announcement; and that the contractors 'have been embarrassed by application for at least twice the amount of the loan they had to dispose of.'" On this subject a letter appears in the *Daily News*, from which we extract the following:—"It is not generally known that the faith of Russia has been most egregiously broken in regard to the last English-Russian loan of 64 millions in 1822. It is stipulated in the contract, and expressed on the bonds themselves, that a sinking fund of one per cent. annually should be employed for its extinction, with the accumulating interest on the sums redeemed, by which at this time there ought to be no more than a third of the loan in circulation. But the purchases for account of the fund were discontinued many years since; consequently the amount of the loan in circulation is very little less than its original sum. The reason for this cessation was because the Government did not like to purchase stock above par, having omitted in the contract to stipulate for a drawing by lot. If the good faith of Russia be so immaculate, why don't she keep to this engagement which England would certainly have done, although to its disadvantage? What guarantee have holders of the new loan for a continuance of the sinking fund of two per cent. promised in the advertisement of the loan?"

Pauperism in Edinburgh has been diminished nearly one-third within the last few months, by the greater demand for labour and the cheapness of food.

[Advertisement.]—**PUBLIC TESTIMONIALS.**—The following Medical Men, Gentlemen, and others, have given voluntary testimonials to cures effected in cases of Bronchitis, Asthma, Coughs, Colds, &c., &c., by **BRANDE'S BRONCHIAL SEDATIVE**.—M. Mieser, the eminent French Physician; John Thompson, Esq., 63, English-street, Armagh; Major Sheppard, Victoria Cottage, Romford; Thomas Richard, Hill Top, West Bromwich; David Goodridge, Portfield, near Haverfordwest; Wm. Davies, Dolgelly; William Hill, 48, Northampton-street, Clerkenwell; Elias Woodley, Gibbon's-street, Plymouth; Mary Rogers, Dark-street, Haverfordwest; J. Willcox, 16, Wilson-street, Stepney; Mrs. Sherwood, Brampton Brian, Ludlow; and a host of others. This Medicine is sold by nearly all Chemists, or can be obtained through all the Agents for Brande's Enamel.

[Advertisement.]—**THE TOOTH-ACHE.**—This pain seems designed to call our attention to the decay going on in the teeth, and warns us to see to their preservation. When teeth are partially decayed, to touch them with food often causes intense pain. Unmasticated substances are, therefore, passed into the stomach, and indigestion and its attendant pains soon ensue. By filling decayed Teeth with Brande's Enamel, which hardens shortly after it has been placed in the cavity, the decay may be checked, the teeth rendered painless, and mastication be duly performed with comfort.

## BIRTHS.

January 17, at Sutherland-street, Walworth, the wife of Mr. D. PRATT, of a son.

January 17, at Bolton, Lancashire, the wife of the Rev. B. BACKHOUSE, of a son.

January 19, at Oliver Mount, Liverpool, Mrs. BIRRELL, of a son.

## MARRIAGES.

January 10, in Chase-side Chapel, Kensal, by the Rev. G. Thompson, of Hackney, THOMAS, second son of Mr. S. BAKER of Bicester, to SARAH, second daughter of Mr. G. H. SWANWICK, of St. Quentin, France.

January 18, at Arlington Chapel, by the Rev. R. Hall, minister, the Rev. J. TRAFFORD, M.A., of Weymouth, to FERNIE, daughter of the late Mr. J. HARRIS, of Arlington.

January 17, at York-street Chapel, Walworth, by the Rev. W. Miall, MARIA, the youngest daughter of C. TOWNLEY, Esq., of the Trinity House, to Mr. A. COWLEY, of Manor-terrace, Walworth.

January 17, at the Crescent Chapel, Everton, by the Rev. J. Kelly, Mr. THOMAS HESLOP STITT, son of J. Stitt, Esq., of Liverpool, to Miss MARTHA FORSHAM LEWIS, of the same place.

January 18, at the Old Meeting, Bedworth, by the Rev. S. Hillyard, Mr. T. H. DODDART to PAULINA, only daughter of the late Mr. J. HANSON, of Bedworth, Warwickshire.

January 18, at Dorford Chapel, Dorchester, Dorset, by the Rev. S. Smeock, Mr. J. S. TARNSWELL, of Alcester, to Miss E. L. COURTIN, of Dorchester.

## DEATHS.

December 25, 1849, in the faith and hope of the gospel, in the 76th year of his age, CHARLES WINTERFLOOD, Esq., of Merton, Surrey.

January 3, at her residence, Southampton-street, Camberwell, aged 71, Mrs. MARY HONIBORNE, only surviving daughter of the late Rev. T. Saunders, formerly of Vicar-lane, Coventry.

January 6, at Torquay, Mr. JOHN NICHOLSON, late of the Devon and Cornwall Bank, Kingsbridge, and pastor of the church in the village of Malborough, near that town.

January 12, at Cawsand-house, near Devonport, in his 78th year, JOSEPH BELLAMY, Esq.

January 13, at his residence, in Halesworth, aged 54, the Rev. J. W. MAYHEW, twenty-eight years the catechised and faithful pastor of the Congregational church at Walpole. Seven orphan children survive to lament their heavy loss.

January 15, at Westbrook-house, Upway, near Weymouth, in her 91st year, deeply and deservedly lamented, MARY, relict of the late N. C. DANIEL, Esq.

January 15, aged 4 months, MARIANNE JEAN, only child of the Rev. A. FLETCHER, D.D., of Finsbury Chapel, London.

January 15, at Preston, aged 64 years, Mrs. ROBERT IRVING, youngest sister of the late E. Baines, Esq., of Leeds.

January 16, after a long and painful illness, GRACE, the relict of the late Rev. Dr. CHALMERS, D.D. LL.D., of Edinburgh.

January 17, at Claylands, MARY, relict of the late Rev. J. HEMMING, A.M., of Kimbolton, Hunts.

January 17, at Upper Clapton, in the 83rd year of his age, JOHN BONNELL, Esq., for many years a magistrate for the county of Middlesex.

January 17, at Birmingham, in his 75th year, Mr. JOHN ROOM, the beloved father of the Rev. G. Room, of Portsea.

## MONEY MARKET AND COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

### CITY, TUESDAY EVENING.

The English Stock Market has been very unsteady during the past week, although there has been no unusual cause for such fluctuation. The value of Consols is rather less, but this may be accounted for by the diversion caused by the announcement of the Russian loan. The meeting at the London Tavern on Friday has not had the effect of restraining capitalists from taking advantage of the opening which was afforded them by it for the investment of their surplus cash, for we hear that the applications to Messrs. Baring are about four times the sum at their disposal. Bank Stock remains at our last quotation, but Exchequer Bills have declined.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Friday.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per Ct. Cons.	96½	96½	96½	97 6	96½	96½
Cons. for Aet.	97 6	96½	96½	97 6	96½	96½
3 per Ct. Red.	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½
New 3 per Ct.						
Annuit.	96 9	96½	96½	99 9	98½	98½
India Stock	268	268	268	267½	267	266½
Bank Stock	207½	207½	207½	207½	207½	207½
Exchq. Bills.	60 pm.	61 pm.	61 pm.	58 pm.	60 pm.	61 pm.
India Bonds	—	96 pm.	98 pm.	98 pm.	95 pm.	95 pm.
Long Annuity	—	8 11-16	8 11-16	—	8 7-16	8 7-15

Foreign Securities have attracted a large amount of business, and have slightly risen. The only exceptions to the statement are presented by the Spanish and Russian Bonds, the latter having been subjected to a good deal of fluctuation, owing, it is said, to the announcement of the loan, but quite as much, we believe, to Mr. Cobden's exposure of the financial and political position of the empire of the Czar. Peruvian and Mexican Stock are favourites in the market, and are enhanced in price.

No perceptible change has taken place in the Money Market. The rate of discount continues to be from 2½ to 2½ per cent. on first class bills. There are symptoms that if any change occurs it







£44; Spanish, £44; Spain, £44 to £—, bagged £44; South Sea, £41 0s. to £30; Seal, pale, £39 10s. to £— 0s.

## METALS, LONDON, Jan. 18.

ENGLISH IRON. s	per ton.	FOREIGN STEEL. c	£ s. d.
Bar, bolt, and square,	£ 2 s. d.	Swedish keg	14 15 0
London	4 6 0	Ditto fagot	15 0 0
Nail rods	4 15 0	ENGLISH COPPER. d	
Hoops	7 15 0	Sheets, sheathing, and	
Sheets, singles	8 15 0	balls	per lb. 6 0 0
Bars, at Cardiff and		Tough cake, per ton	84 0 0
Newport	£5 7 6—5 10 0	Tile	83 0 0
Refined metal, Wales,		Old copper, s, per lb.	0 0 0
£3 5 0—3 10 0		FOREIGN COPPER. f	
Do. Anthracite	3 15 0	South American, in	
Pig, in Wales	3 5 0	bond	0 0 0
Do. do. forge	3 15 0	ENGLISH LEAD. g.	
Do. No. 1, Clyde, net		Pig, per ton	£16 5—16 10 0
cash	£0 0s. 0d.—2 8 0	Sheet	17 10 0
Blowitt's Patent Re-		Red lead	18 0 0
finer Iron for bars,		White ditto	33 0 0
rails, &c., free on		Patent shot	19 0 0
board, at Newport	3 15 0	FOREIGN LEAD. A	
Do. do. for tin-plates,		Spanish, in bond	£15 0—15 10 0
boiler plates, &c.	4 10 0	ENGLISH TIN. i	
Stirling's Patent		Block, per cwt.	4 0 0
toughened pigs, in		Bar	4 1 6
Glasgow	0 0 0	Refined	£4 4—4 7 0
Do. in Wales	0 0 0	FOREIGN TIN. k	
Staffordshire bars, at		Banca, in bond	4 4 0
the works	6 0 0	Straits	4 12 0
Pigs, in Stafford-		TIN PLATES. l	
shire	3 5 0	IC Coke, per box	1 8 6
Rails	5 5—5 7 6	IC Charcoal	1 12 6
Chairs	4 0 0	IX ditto	1 17 0
FOREIGN IRON. b		SPELTER. m	
Swedish	£11—12 0 0	Plates, warehouse,	
COND	0 0 0	per ton	£16 0—16 15 0
PSI	0 0 0	Do. to arrive	£0 0—0 0 0
Georgieff	0 0 0	ZINC. n	
Archangel	0 0 0	English sheet, per ton	21 0 0
		QUICKSILVER. o	0 3 6

Terms.—a, 6 months, or 2½ per cent. dis.; b, ditto; c, ditto; d, 6 months, or 3 per cent. dis.; e, 6 months, or 2½ per cent. dis.; f, ditto; g, ditto; h, ditto; i, ditto; k, net cash; l, six months, or 3 per cent. dis.; m, net cash; n, 3 months, or 1½ per cent. dis.; o, ditto, 1½ dis.

## COAL MARKET, Monday, Jan. 21.

Owing to a very few arrivals during the past week, and none expected for some days, factors are in a position to hold over their coals for a further advance. Huttons, 22s.; Stewart's, 22s. Fresh arrivals, 4; left from last day, 15. Total, 19.

## ADVERTISEMENT.

## FORD'S PECTORAL BALM OF HOAREHOUND

For the relief and cure of Coughs, Influenza, Asthma, and all Pulmonary complaints. The Balmic properties of the herb Hoarehound, and its efficacy in those diseases which affect the Lungs and respiratory organs, have ever been admitted by the most eminent physicians. The usual mode of administering it being attended with inconvenience, Mr. Ford was induced to offer the public this unique and elegant preparation, which combines in a concentrated form the well-known medicinal properties of the herb. The distinguished approbation it has met with is a sufficient testimony of its efficacy. It operates by a safe and easy expectoration, removing congealed phlegm, acrimony in the fluids, and obstructions in the glands. Many thousands of persons have annually experienced its salutary and healing effects, numbers of whom have borne grateful testimony to its restoring qualities. The high patronage and universal demand for this medicine induces and warrants the Patentee to recommend it to all suffering from the above-named distressing complaints, as an acknowledged safe and efficacious remedy. The public are requested to notice that Ford's Pectoral Balm of Hoarehound will invariably have the signature of the Patentee on the outside wrapper to each bottle, and the name of the sole wholesale agent, Mr. EDWARDS, 67, St. Paul's Churchyard, London, engraved on the Government stamp. Sold in bottles at 1s. 9d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d. and 10s. 6d. each, by Edwards, 67, St. Paul's Churchyard; Sanger, 100, Oxford-street; and by most respectable chemists in town and country.

## A BOON TO THE AFFLICTED!!

RUPTURES EFFECTUALLY AND PERMANENTLY CURED WITHOUT A TRUSS!!

EVERY SUFFERER FROM RUPTURE (Single or Double, and of every variety) is earnestly invited to write, or pay Dr. BARKER a visit, as in every case he guarantees them a perfect cure.

During an extensive practice his remedy has been entirely successful, as the hundreds of Testimonials he has received from patients, and many eminent members of the medical profession, amply prove. It is applicable to both sexes, old and young; easy and painless in use, and most certain in effect.

The remedy is sent post-free on receipt of 6s. by post-office order, or cash, by Dr. Alfred Barker, 108, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury-square, London, where he may be consulted daily from 10 till 11, mornings; 4 till 5, evenings (Sundays excepted).

Post-office Orders must be made payable at the Bloomsbury Post-office. Hundreds of testimonials and trusses have been left behind by persons cured, as trophies of the immense success of this remedy, which Dr. Barker will willingly give to any requiring them after a trial of it.

Sufferers from Piles, Fistula, Prolapsus, &c., are also invited to avail themselves of Doctor B.'s immense experience in these diseases. A cure, in every case, is guaranteed.

## LUXURANT HAIR, WHISKERS, &amp;c.

THE Extraordinary efficacy of MADAME BOOTH'S EDYOSMIA in producing these Ornaments of Manhood in a few weeks is becoming universally known and appreciated, as the numerous testimonials received daily will testify. This elegant extract is eminently successful in nourishing, curling, and beautifying the hair, and preventing greyness in all stages of existence. It insinuates its balsamic properties into the pores of the head, nourishes the hair in its embryonic state, accelerates its growth, cleanses it from scurf, sustains it in maturity, and continues its possession of healthy vigour to the latest period of life.

For the reproduction of the hair in the baldness from whatever cause, and whatever time of life, and the production of Moustaches, Whiskers, Eyebrows, &c., it is decidedly the most popular and efficient preparation ever known.

Being an aqueous distillation of choice flowers, it is free from all those objectionable qualities every other clumsy greasy compound for the hair possesses; and the scent is very delicate and persistent. Enough for three months' use will be sent post-free on receipt of Twenty-four Postage Stamps, by MADAME BOOTH, 14, Hand-court, Holborn, London.

## AUTHENTIC TESTIMONIALS.

"It is far superior to the clumsy, greasy compounds used for the hair, all of which are injurious."—PROFESSOR RYAN.  
"I have tried every other preparation advertised, and found them useless, yours is certainly deserving of patronage. It has acted miraculously on my hair."—Miss WILKINSON, Cambridge.  
"Your delightful Edyosmia is the most beautiful preparation I ever used; I consider it a valuable addition to my toilette. It effectually restored my hair, which I was fast losing from a severe illness."—Miss ELIZA COOK, Hoxton, Devon.

## GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES, FINE GOLD CHAINS, &amp;c. &amp;c.

## BENSON'S £4 15s. GOLD WATCHES.—

The same Movements in Silver Cases, £2 15s., at the Manufactory, 16 and 63, CORNHILL.

A Large and Beautiful Stock can be selected from, with highly-finished movements, Four Holes Jewelled, Rich Gold Dials, and every improvement.

Benson's Patent Detached Lower Watches, Jewelled in four holes, rich Gold Dials, Double-backed Gold Cases, and to mark the seconds, and every other improvement. £3 8 0  
Ditto, ditto, in Silver Cases, Silver or Enamelled Dials £18 0

Or the above Watches can be had in Hunting Cases, for the extra charge of 15s. and two guineas, gold and silver respectively.

The proprietors beg respectfully to inform the public, that in consequence of the large profits usually charged upon Watches, they have been induced to manufacture their entire stock; and the immense number sold enables them GREATLY TO REDUCE THEIR PRICES.

A written warranty given with every Watch for two years, and sent, carriage free, to any part of the United Kingdom, upon receipt of a Post-office banker's order.

A splendid stock of fine Gold Chains at their weight for Sovereigns, among which should be noticed the Greek Pattern Guard Chain, which combines the strength of the curb with great elegance of form, and is recommended for general wear.

A Gold Watch, with all the latest improvements—that is, Gold Dial, Jewelled in Four Holes, Maintaining Power, Double-backed Cases, &c., with Fine Gold Chain, fitted complete in Morocco Case, adapted for a present, price Seven Guineas.

## WATCHES MADE EXPRESSLY FOR INDIA.

## DO YOU SUFFER WITH COUGH,

Bronchitis, Influenza, or Asthma? If so, send for a Packet of BRAND'S BRONCHIAL SEDATIVE. Sold by Chemists everywhere at 1s. 1d. per packet, post free 1s. 3d., and 2s. 9d. per box, post free 3s.

Since the introduction of this medicine, it has been rapidly supplanting all other preparations administered for pulmonary disorders.

Excruciating Cough, Shortness of Breath, and Hoarseness, cured by Brand's Sedative, after all the medical men in the neighbourhood had failed:—

"Portfield, near Haverfordwest, Feb. 12th, 1849.

"GENTLEMEN,—Having been a great sufferer for upwards of three years, with an oppression of the chest, and an excruciating cough and pain in my stomach, which at times nearly deprived me of my breath, I was induced (after having tried all the doctors in this neighbourhood) to send to your agent at Haverfordwest for a packet of Brand's Bronchial Sedative, and, to my great astonishment, I found relief in less than two days; I was enabled to breathe with perfect ease, and my voice, which was before hoarse and husky, became quite clear. I then sent for another packet, and I have now, thank God! got rid of my cough, and am perfectly restored to my former health. You are at perfect liberty to make use of this information in any way you may think proper.

"I remain, gentlemen, yours respectfully,  
"DAVID GOODRIDGE."

London: Manufactured only by JOHN WILLIS, 24, East Temple Chambers, Whitefriars, Fleet-street, removed from 4, Bell's-buildings, Salisbury-square. Wholesale by all the large Medicine Houses.

Should there be any difficulty in obtaining it, enclose fifteen stamps to JOHN WILLIS (as above), and you will ensure the genuine article by return of post. Twenty authentic testimonials, with full directions for use, accompany each packet. Observe that the name of "John Willis" is on every packet.

## AGENTS WANTED.

## DIETETIC COCOA.

## HOMOEOPATHIC PATIENTS, DYSPEP-

TICS, and persons of delicate constitutions, are strongly recommended to use TAYLOR BROTHERS' DIETETIC COCOA, as being very superior to any preparation of the Cocoa Nut hitherto introduced. This article is manufactured on a peculiar principle, by which the oily portions of the nut are neutralised, at the same time its flavour, purity, and nutritious properties are maintained. It is an essential article of diet for those under Homoeopathic Treatment, agrees with the most delicate digestive organs, is agreeable and soothing to the nervous system, and proves at the same time both invigorating and refreshing.

Sold wholesale by TAYLOR BROTHERS, at their Mills, Spitalfields, London, and retail, in one pound, half-pound, and quarter-pound tin-foil packets, at 1s. 4d. per pound, by most respectable Grocers and Tea-dealers in the kingdom; of whom also may be had TAYLOR BROTHERS' Original SOLUBLE COCOA (only one-third the price of Coffee), the consumption of which article exceeds ONE MILLION POUNDS per annum—a fact which has induced many parties to manufacture spurious imitations, which, although somewhat resembling the appearance, are totally devoid of the essential and peculiar properties of the original and only genuine article. To guard against these counterfeits, TAYLOR BROTHERS recommend the purchase of their article in packets only which bear their name, with directions for use. Sold by all Grocers and Tea-dealers.

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## GALVANIC ELECTRICITY.

## No. II.

MR. HALSE, the Medical Galvanist, of 22, Brunswick-square, London, respectfully invites Invalids and the public generally, to peruse the following  
[Continued from last week.]

## EXTRACTS FROM MR. WESLEY'S WORKS ON THE SUBJECT OF ELECTRICITY.

"Desideratum," p. 66.—"It seems the electric fire in cases of this and many other kinds, dilates the minute vessels and capillary passages, as well as separates the clogging particles of the stagnating fluids. By accelerating, likewise, the motion of the blood, it removes many obstructions."

70.—Mr. L.:—"I can't deny but I was much astonished at seeing such mighty things performed by electricity. But, after having considered the nature of electric ether . . . I was led to conclude that all those surprising effects were no more than the necessary consequences of so powerful an agent, when thus determined and directed. And the helping us in our bodily infirmities was one great end (probably the great end) it was ordained to serve."

"It were greatly to be wished that the gentlemen of the faculty would strictly examine the nature, properties, and effects of this sovereign remedy."

"It is highly probable a timely use of this means might prevent, before they were thoroughly formed, and frequently even then removes some of the most painful and dangerous distempers, cancers and scrofulous tumors in particular, though they will yield to no other medicine yet discovered. It is certain, nothing is so likely, by accelerating the contained fluids, to dilate and open the passages, as well as divide the coagulated particles of the blood, so that the circulation may be again performed. And it is a doubt, whether it would not be of more use, even in mortification, than either the bark or any other medicine. Before I conclude, I would beg one thing (if it be not too great a favour) from the gentlemen of the faculty. . . . It is, that they would hear the cause before they pass sentence . . . that they would not pronounce against electricity while they know little or nothing about it. Let every candid man take a little pains. Let him, for two or three weeks, try it himself in the above-named disorders; and then his own senses will show him whether it be a mere plaything, or the noblest medicine yet known in the world."

WESLEY'S NATURAL PHILOSOPHY, Vol. III., Page 174.—"From a thousand experiments it appears that there is a fluid far more subtle than air, which is everywhere diffused through all space, which surrounds the earth, and pervades every part of it."

"This is subtle and active enough, not only to be, under the Great Cause, the secondary cause of motion, but to produce and sustain life throughout all nature, as well in animals as in vegetables."

Page 192.—"And may it not be doubted whether this be not the only elastic body in the universe? whether it be not the original spring which communicates elasticity to all other elastic bodies?"

Page 194.—"Electricity quickens almost all sorts of motion. It accelerates the motion of the human blood. The blood that flows from the vein of one electrified, glister, separates into small drops, and spouts out further than otherwise it would do. "It exceedingly hastens the vegetation of plants. Myrtles, which were electrified, budded much sooner than others of the same kind and bigness in the same green-house; and seeds, electrified daily, have shot up and grown more in three or four days, than others of the same kind, and sown in all other circumstances, have done in eleven or twelve days."

"It cures abundance of diseases, even the most stubborn, particularly those of the nervous kind, many of them in a moment by a single touch,—most in a few days; so that this is not only one of the greatest curiosities in the world, but one of the noblest medicines that God ever gave to man."

Page 195.—"Electricity will probably soon be considered as the great vivifying principle of nature, by which she carries on most of her operations. It is a fifth element, distinct from, and of a superior nature to the other four, which only compose the corporeal parts of matter; but this subtle and active fluid is a kind of soil that pervades and quickens every particle of it. When an equal quantity of this is diffused through the air, and over the face of the earth, everything continues calm and quiet,—but if, by any accident, one part of matter has acquired a greater quantity than another, the most dreadful consequences often ensue before the equilibrium can be restored. Nature seems to fall into convulsions, and many of her works are destroyed. All the great phenomena are produced,—thunder, lightning, earthquake, and whirlwinds,—for there is now little doubt that all these frequently depend on the sole cause. And again, if we look down from the sublime of Nature to its minutiae, we shall still find the same power acting, though, perhaps, in less legible characters,—for as the knowledge of its operations is still in its infancy, they are generally misunderstood, or ascribed to some other cause. But, doubtless, in process of time, these will be properly investigated, when men will wonder how much they have been in the dark. It will then possibly be found, that what we call sensibility of nerves, and many of those diseases known only by name, are owing to the body's being possessed of too large or too small a quantity of this subtle and active fluid,—that very fluid, perhaps, that is the vehicle of all our feelings, and which has been so long searched for in vain in the nerves."

"We all know that in damp and hazy weather, where it seems to be blunted and absorbed by the humidity, where its activity is lost, and little or none of it can be collected, our spirits are more languid and our sensibility less acute. And in the South wind, at Naples, where the air seems totally deprived of it, the whole system is unstrung, and the nerves seem to lose both their tension and elasticity, till the North or West wind awakens the activity of this animating power, that soon restores the tone and enlivens all nature, which seemed to droop and languish during its absence."

Page 197.—"It is not at all improbable that many of our invalids, particularly the hypochondriacs, owe their disagreeable feelings to their bodies being possessed of too small a quantity of this fire, for we find that a diminution of it in the air seldom fails to increase their uneasy sensations."

Persons who are desirous of being acquainted more fully with Mr. Wesley's remarks on Electricity as the great vivifying principle of nature, are respectfully solicited to procure his works on the subject.

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